

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
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Page 42 ~ Referral/Direct;  
Page 43 ~ Referral/Direct;  
Page 44 ~ Referral/Direct;  
Page 45 ~ Referral/Direct;  
Page 46 ~ Referral/Direct;  
Page 47 ~ Referral/Direct;  
Page 48 ~ Referral/Direct;  
Page 103 ~ Referral/Direct;  
Page 104 ~ Referral/Direct;  
Page 105 ~ Referral/Direct;  
Page 106 ~ Referral/Direct;  
Page 107 ~ Referral/Direct;  
Page 108 ~ Referral/Direct;  
Page 109 ~ Referral/Direct;  
Page 110 ~ Referral/Direct;  
Page 111 ~ Referral/Direct;  
Page 112 ~ Referral/Direct;  
Page 120 ~ b6; b7C;  
Page 121 ~ b6; b7C;  
Page 122 ~ b6; b7C;  
Page 123 ~ b6; b7C;  
Page 124 ~ b6; b7C;  
Page 125 ~ b6; b7C;  
Page 126 ~ b6; b7C;  
Page 127 ~ b6; b7C;

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Page 106 ~ Referral/Direct;  
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Page 111 ~ Referral/Direct;  
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Page 120 ~ b6; b7C;  
Page 121 ~ b6; b7C;  
Page 122 ~ b6; b7C;  
Page 123 ~ b6; b7C;  
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## ATTENTION

The following documents appearing in FBI files have been reviewed under the provisions of The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (Title 5, United States Code, Section 552); Privacy Act of 1974 (PA) (Title 5, United States Code, Section 552a); and/or Litigation.

☐ FOIA/PA☐ Litigation☐ Executive Order Applied

Requester: \_\_\_\_\_

Subject: \_\_\_\_\_

Computer or Case Identification Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Case: \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_

\* File \_\_\_\_\_

Serials Reviewed: \_\_\_\_\_

Release Location: \*File \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_

This file section has been scanned into the FOIPA Document Processing System (FDPS) prior to National Security Classification review. Please see the documents located in the FDPS for current classification action, if warranted. b6  
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 inquires about the FDPS to RIDS Service Request Un [REDACTED]

File Number: 116-HQ-2441 Section 1Serial(s) Reviewed: 111

FOIPA Requester: \_\_\_\_\_

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FOIPA Computer Number: DATE 05-22-2006 BY 60322/AUC/LP/CPB/PVR

File Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_

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THIS FORM IS TO BE MAINTAINED AS THE TOP SERIAL OF THE FILE, BUT NOT SERIALIZED.

SCANNED BY DocLab (KAL)

DATE: 5/1/85

ATTENTION

LAST SERIAL: 37 DO NOT REMOVE FROM FILE

## PERSONNEL SECURITY QUESTIONNAIRE

INSTRUCTIONS - All sections must be completed - Write none when applicable - Type or print all answers. If space not adequate for complete answers, attach a supplemental sheet to this form.

## 1. NAME (Last, First, Middle)

BETHE, HANS ALBRECHT

## 2. OTHER NAMES (Include maiden name, if married woman)

## 3. NORMAL HOME ADDRESS OR PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE FOR PAST 15 YEARS

Ithaca, New York

4. ALL OTHER PERMANENT ADDRESSES FOR PAST 15 YEARS -  
(Apt. or R.F.D. No., Street, City, State, and dates there)

209 Wh. Pk. Rd., Ithaca, NY since 1/1946  
P.O. Box 1663, Santa Fe, New Mex. 4/43-1/46  
10 Forest St., Cambridge, Mass. 8/42-3/43  
20 Remington Rd., Ithaca 1941-42  
101 Highgate Rd., Ithaca 1937-39

\*(White Park Road)

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 04-04-2006 BY 60322/AUC/LP/CPB/PVR

5. DESCRIPTION (Check which) ☒ MALE ☐ FEMALE

RACE HEIGHT WEIGHT COLOR EYES COLOR HAIR

White 5' 11" 190 Blue Black

## 6. (Check which)

☐ SINGLE ☐ DIVORCED☒ MARRIED ☐ WIDOW(ER)

## 7. BIRTH DATE

DAY MONTH YEAR

2 July 1906

## 8. BIRTHPLACE (City, County, State or County)

Strasbourg, Alsace Lorraine, France

## 9. CITIZENSHIP U.S.A.

IF NATURALIZED: DATE

2/8/41

CERTIFICATE NUMBER

5079504

PLACE

Ithaca, New York

IF ALIEN: PORT OF ENTRY

DATE

ALIEN REGISTRATION NUMBER

## 10. DRAFT CLASSIFICATION

IV-A

BOARD NO. AND ADDRESS

Ithaca, New York

SECURITY NO:

None

## 12. MILITARY SERVICE None

SERIAL NUMBER BRANCH FROM TO (Yr.)

LEGAL RESIDENCE WHEN DISCHARGED

## 13. EDUCATION (All schools above elementary)

NAME OF SCHOOL	ADDRESS	FROM	TO (Yr.)	DEGREES
University of Munich	Germany			Ph. D. Physics 2241

## 14. EMPLOYMENT (List all employment and dates)

DATE	TYPE OF WORK	NAME OF EMPLOYER (COMPANY OR ORGANIZATION)	ADDRESS (where employed)
since 1935	Prof. of Physics	Cornell University	Ithaca, New York
4/43-1/46	Division Leader	University of California, Los Alamos project	P.O. Box 1663 Santa Fe, New Mexico



## 14. EMPLOYMENT (Cont'd.)

DATE	TYPE OF WORK	NAME OF EMPLOYER (COMPANY OR ORGANIZATION)	ADDRESS (where employed)
10/42- 3/43	Staff member	Radiation Laboratory M.I.T. Cambridge, Mass.	

## 15.

## FOREIGN COUNTRIES VISITED (Since 1930) (Exclusive of military service)

COUNTRY	DATE LEFT U.S.A.	DATE RET'D U.S.A.	PURPOSE
Germany & England	7/35	9/35	visit parents
Germany & Switzerland	7/36	9/36	visit parents, vacation
Germany	8/37	9/37	visit parents
Eng., Ger., Switz.	7/38	9/38	visit parents, friends
Canada	7/39	8/39	also shorter visits to friends

16.

## ALL ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIP

NAME, ADDRESS, TYPE (Including dates and any office held)

American Physical Society, Columbia University, N.Y.C.  
 Nat. Acad. Society, Washington, D.C.  
 N.Y. Acad. Society, New York City, N.Y.  
 American Astronomical Society

1935 - date  
 1943 - date  
 1939 - date  
 1940 - date

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17.

## RELATIVES (parents, spouse, children, brothers and sisters, living or dead)

RELATION	NAME IN FULL	ADDRESS	COUNTRY OF BIRTH	PRESENT CITIZENSHIP
Father	Albrecht, Bethe,	99 Forsthaus St., Frankfurt, Ger.	Germany	Germany
Mother	Anna Bethe	Kreiders Pt., Beechhurst, N.Y.	France	Germany
Wife			Germany	U.S.A.
Son			U.S.A.	U.S.A.
Daughter			U.S.A.	U.S.A.
$\frac{1}{2}$ Brother			Germany	Germany
$\frac{1}{2}$ Sister			Germany	Germany

18.

REFERENCES (Name three persons, not relatives or employers, who are well acquainted with you)

NAME	ADDRESS	YEARS KNOWN
	Nat. Research Council Washington, D.C.	14
	Physics Dept., Columbia Univ., N.W.C.	b6 b7C 19
		b6 b7C

19.

ARRESTS (Include all arrests and fines other than minor traffic violations)

CHARGE	DATE	PLACE WHERE ARRESTED	DISPOSITION
None			<div style="text-align: center;"> <b>FBI</b>  MAR 13 12 52 PM '47  DEPT. OF JUSTICE  FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION </div>

## CERTIFICATION

I CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION CONTAINED ABOVE IS CORRECT AND COMPLETE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF. I UNDERSTAND THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES WILL INVESTIGATE THE INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN, AND THAT ANY FALSE STATEMENT IS SUFFICIENT CAUSE FOR REJECTION OF THE APPLICATION OR DISMISSAL AFTER APPOINTMENT.

2-15-47

DATE

USUAL SIGNATURE OR MARK OF EMPLOYEE (Sign Original Only)

## TO BE FILLED OUT BY AGENCY OR FIRM EMPLOYING

AGENCY OR FIRM TO EMPLOY APPLICANT	ADDRESS
Brookhaven National Laboratory Associated Universities, Inc.	P.O. Box 150 Patchogue, Long Island, N.Y.
BRIEF JOB DESCRIPTION (Job Title, Duties and Location - Description should not reveal classified information)	WILL APPLICANT HAVE ACCESS TO RESTRICTED DATA?
Consultant - Senior Scientist - Department of Physics, Scientific Program and Problems.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO (Check the one block applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> FINGERPRINT CARD ATTACHED <input type="checkbox"/> T - 1 ATTACHED (RESULTS OF FBI FINGERPRINT FILE CHECK) <input type="checkbox"/> FBI IDENTIFICATION NUMBER
Classification Q  <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 200px; height: 30px; margin: 10px auto;"></div>	DO NOT COMPLETE SPACE BELOW
	REFERRED TO F.B.I.
	RECEIVED FROM F.B.I.
SIGNATURE OF APPROVING AUTHORITY (OFFICIAL OF EMPLOYING COMPANY CERTIFYING AUTHORITY ON OF EMPLOYMENT)	

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **BUREAU**

**NY** FILE NO. **116-500** **KD**

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW YORK</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>4/18/47</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>4/17/47</b>	REPORT MADE BY <div></div>
TITLE <b>HANS ALBRECHT BETHE - 15</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>ATOMIC ENERGY ACT - APPLICANT</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Reference  an   
in Physics Department of Columbia University,  
recommends applicant highly as to character,  
loyalty and associations.

- R U C -

**REFERENCES:**

Bureau file 116-2241.  
Bureau letter to Albany, 4/2/47.

SEARCHED  
SERIALS  
INDEXED  
FILED  
APR 22 1947  
FBI - NEW YORK

**DETAILS:**

At New York City:

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an  in the Physics Department of Columbia University, 116th Street and Broadway, informed that he has known the applicant quite well for the past ten years. While the applicant is of German origin,  was convinced that he is everything that can be desired as to loyalty to this country. He described the applicant as being a liberal in that he believed in progress but was certain that he was not radical. The applicant did not mix much in politics but was very active in the scientific field, where he is considered to be a very capable scientist.

Reference  continued that he has been active with the applicant on some very confidential assignments and knows that he always retained the secrecy of the information coming into his possession. In addition, he has met the applicant's wife, whom he regards highly as well as his two children.

Reference  concluded by stating he would recommend the applicant highly as to character, loyalty and associations.

It is to be noted that "Who's Who" In America reflects that Reference  a  was born in Austria and came to this country in

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5 - Bureau		FY-11	
2 - New York			

NY 116-500

infancy. He studied at Cornell and Columbia Universities and became [redacted]  
[redacted] at Columbia in 1930, a Professor in 1937 and an [redacted]  
[redacted] in the Physics Department in 1945. He was awarded the Nobel Prize in  
Physics in 1944 and is a member of the Advisory Board of the Atomic Energy  
Commission.

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REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

BUREAU

FILE NO. 116-1164

REPORT MADE AT WASHINGTON, D. C.	DATE WHEN MADE 4-17-47	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 4-14-47	REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div> EDT: SHK
TITLE HANS ALBRECHT BETHE - 15			CHARACTER OF CASE ATOMIC ENERGY ACT - APPLIC b6 b7C

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

reference, speaks highly of applicant, states he is entirely reliable and loyal to the United States.

- RUC -

**REFERENCES:**

Bureau File 116-2241.  
Bureau letter to Albany, dated April 2, 1947.

**DETAILS:**

At Washington, D. C.

REFERENCES

Division of Physical Science, National Research Council, home address  advised that he was formerly  of the Department of Physics at Cornell University, and that the applicant began instructing at Cornell in the early part of 1935, in the Metal Physics Department. He stated that the applicant was forced out of Germany in 1933 because of his Jewish extraction. He stated that the applicant went to England for about one year and that he  had arranged for the applicant to come to the United States to instruct at Cornell University. He further advised that when the war broke out the applicant started working in connection with the war effort. He

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <div style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 150px; height: 1.2em; vertical-align: middle;"></div>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 2 - Washington Field		ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 04-04-2006 BY 60322/auc/lp/cpb/pvr

WFO File 116-1164

stated that the applicant spent about one year, 1942 or 1943, at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He stated that the applicant was in charge of the Theoretical Physics Department at the Los Alamos Atomic Bomb project.

He stated that the applicant's character and reputation are above reproach and that he is reliable and entirely loyal to the United States.

[redacted] further advised that the applicant's wife is presently residing in Belfast, Ireland, having also been forced out of Germany due to her Jewish extraction. He stated that the applicant's father was still in Germany but he could not furnish any information concerning the applicant's wife or her family. He advised that it was his opinion that the applicant's family is reliable and did not believe that they would attempt to harm the United States.

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- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -



WFO File 116-1164

A check of the Washington Field Office files reflects that file 100-13401, serial 191, lists applicant as a member of the Emergency Commission of Atomic Scientists which met on November 18, 1946, at Princeton, New Jersey, for the purpose of educating the public to the realization of the peril of the Atomic Bomb and to the fact that the only solution is an International Atomic Authority and untimately the elimination of war.

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

BUREAU

FILE NO. 116-239

REPORT MADE AT EL PASO, TEXAS	DATE WHEN MADE 4-14-47	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 4/9-12-/47	REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>
TITLE HANS ALBRECHT BETHE - 15			CHARACTER OF CASE ATOMIC ENERGY ACT - APPLICANT

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**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

BETHE employed as Division Leader in Theoretical Physics at Los Alamos Project by University of California from 4-1-43 to 1-11-46. His services were satisfactory, extremely valuable, and terminated by his request. Neighborhood investigation favorable. No credit or criminal record at Los Alamos or Santa Fe, New Mexico. No derogatory information developed.

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- R U ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 04-04-2006 BY 60322/auc/lp/cpb/pvr

REFERENCE:

Bureau File #116-2241

Bureau letter to Albany office dated April 2, 1947.

DETAILS:

EMPLOYMENT

At Los Alamos, New Mexico

AGENCY Los Alamos  
REQ. REC'D 8/1/47  
REP'T FORW. 8/1/47  
BY J. C. Duran

for the University of California, referred to his records and advised that BETHE had been employed by the University, at Los Alamos, from April 1, 1943 until January 11, 1946. He had been Leader of the Division of Theoretical Physics. According to Mr. KELLY, there was no information of a derogatory nature contained in the Applicant's file.

of the Los Alamos Project, informed that he had been associated with Dr. BETHE at the project

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EP 116-239

since 1944 and had been the Director during the last four months that BETHE was at Los Alamos. BETHE, he stated, was the Division Leader in Theoretical Physics and, in this capacity, made many major contributions toward developing the practical application of the "fission process" as utilized in the manufacture of the atom bomb. In fact, [ ] said, Dr. BETHE did as much toward the actual development of the bomb as any one individual connected with the program. For the major part of his stay at Los Alamos, BETHE, according to [ ] would have ranked number two as senior scientist on the project, with [ ] the [ ] being the only one to outrank him.

[ ] advised that he considers Dr. BETHE a most reliable person and an individual about whose loyalty to this Country he would have no question. He stated that he had never known of anything derogatory to BETHE and there had been no difficulties whatsoever arise in connection with his services at Los Alamos. BETHE, [ ] advised, had terminated his services at Los Alamos on his own accord because of a desire to return to work in the educational field.

#### NEIGHBORHOOD

##### At Los Alamos, New Mexico

The records of the Housing Office were reviewed by [ ] who advised that BETHE had resided in Apartment T-107, on the project, from April, 1943 until November, 1945, when he had moved into a separate house, T-112, and had lived there until January, 1946 when he left the post. [ ] related that he, himself, had occupied [ ] after BETHE had moved out and that none of the neighbors had had any complaint to make about the BETHEs. He informed that all of the families living there at that time have since moved away from Los Alamos. Also, he advised, that the housing office records contain no information of a derogatory nature, in connection with the Applicant.

[ ] informed that he lived hear to the Applicant from the time he occupied T-112 until he left the project. Dr. BETHE, he advised is a loyal citizen and a person he would have the utmost confidence under any circumstances. He stated that the Applicant was a person of good habits, devoted to his family, and a person about whom he knew nothing derogatory at all.

EP 116-239

When [redacted] was interviewed, he advised that he had lived next door to the Applicant for several months and had found him to be a good neighbor in all respects, and he had no comments of an adverse nature to make concerning him.

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CREDIT AND CRIMINAL RECORDS

At Los Alamos, New Mexico

[redacted] advised that the files of his office contain no record for the Applicant or the members of his immediate family.

At Santa Fe, New Mexico

The Records of the Merchants' Credit Association were reported by [redacted] to be negative in respect to the Applicant.

[redacted] Santa Fe Police Department, and [redacted] New Mexico State Police, each checked the names of HANS, [redacted] and [redacted] against the files of his respective department, with negative results.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

The indices of the El Paso office reflect only that the Applicant and his wife were mentioned in a CIC report made regarding Communist Activities at the Los Alamos Project in 1944. This report had been made available by the Intelligence Office at Los Alamos, and, at their request, returned to them, so that it was not available for review. Inquiry of [redacted] for the Los Alamos Project, disclosed that instant report had been forwarded to Oak Ridge and destroyed there. He advised that it had concerned itself with mail covers maintained by MIS and that if there were any specific, derogatory information in connection with the Applicant that it would be available from the central files of the MED which are maintained in Washington. It is noted that the request from the Bureau for instant investigation advised that no derogatory information was noted from a review of the MED file relating to the Applicant.

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

BUREAU

AL

FILE NO.

116-196 mfs

REPORT MADE AT <b>ALBANY, NEW YORK</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>4/11/47</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>4/7/8/47</b>	REPORT MADE BY <div></div>
TITLE <b>HANS ALBRECHT BETHE - 15</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>ATOMIC ENERGY ACT - APPLICANT</b>

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Records Cornell University, Ithaca, New York reflect applicant born 7/2/1906, Strassbourg, Alsace Lorraine, France. Employed at Cornell as Professor of Physics from February, 1935 to present time; was on leave of absence from Cornell 10/16/42 to 3/1/43 while at Mass. Institute of Technology, and from 5/1/43 to 2/1/46 while serving as Head of Division of Theoretical Physics, DSM Project, Los Alamos, N. M. Presently resides with wife at 209 White Park Road, Ithaca, N. Y. Records NYS Supreme Court, Ithaca, N. Y. reflect BETHE arrived in U. S. from Germany 2/8/35, became naturalized citizen of U. S. at Ithaca 2/10/41, petition number 5079504. BETHE is member of Executive Committee of Association of Scientists of Cornell University which is local group at Cornell affiliated with Federation of American Scientists. Associates and acquaintances at Cornell state BETHE of excellent character and reputation, strongly anti-Nazi, anti-Communist and loyal and patriotic citizen of the U. S. Not known to have any associates who are suspicious or questionable. Files of Identification Division of Bureau contain no information concerning applicant. Credit very good; no criminal at Ithaca, N. Y.

- R.U.C. -

Reference:

Bureau File 116-2241

Bureau letter to Albany dated 4/2/47.

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2 - Albany			
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AL 116-196

Details:

Referenced letter from the Bureau to the Albany Field Division advised that the Identification Division of the Bureau contained no previous information concerning this applicant.

AT ITHACA, NEW YORK:

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[redacted] of the University, Cornell University, made available records which reflected that HA<sup>b6</sup> ALBRECHT BETHE had been appointed Assistant Professor of<sup>b7C</sup> Physics at Cornell University on February 8, 1935. On May 1, 1937 he was appointed full Professor of Physics and has been so employed at Cornell until the present time.

[redacted] records reflected that BETHE had been on a leave of absence from Cornell University from October 16, 1942 until March 1, 1943 while he was serving on the staff of the radiation laboratory, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Mass. He was again on a leave of absence from Cornell University from May 1, 1943 until February 1, 1946 while he was serving on Project Y, DSM Project, Los Alamos, New Mexico.

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[redacted] stated that he was personally acquainted with Professor BETHE and had known him since he first arrived at Cornell in 1935 and [redacted] asserted that BETHE was of excellent character and reputation at Cornell University. [redacted] stated that BETHE was considered a very distinguished member of the Cornell faculty and as being one of the outstanding theoretical physicists in the world. [redacted] stated that he had never heard any criticism or comments in any way derogatory pertaining to BETHE'S political beliefs or sympathies pointing out that on the contrary, BETHE was a German refugee who was regarded as being strongly anti-Nazi, anti-Communist and anti-totalitarian being strongly pro-American and pro-Democratic. [redacted] stated that BETHE is one of the most emotionally pro-American naturalized citizens he has ever met and stated that he had no doubt but what BETHE was entirely loyal to the Government of the United States. He added that BETHE'S reputation concerning politics was that it was very conservative, that he seldom expressed himself on political matters and was

AL 116-196

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inclined to leave such matters to officials of the Government charged with the responsibility of policy making with respect to the United States and implementation of scientific developments.

[redacted] of the Department of Physics, Cornell University, made available the personnel file of the applicant, HANS ALBRECHT BETHE from which the following background data was obtained.

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BETHE was born July 2, 1906 at Strassbourg, Alsace Lorraine, France. He received his Ph.D from the University of Frankfurt, Munich, Germany in 1928. He arrived in the United States on February 8, 1935 and became a naturalized citizen of the United States at Ithaca, New York on February 10, 1941. The following is a chronological list of the positions held by Professor BETHE:

1928 - 1929	Assistant in Theoretical Physics, Frankfurt, Germany
1929	Technische Hochschule, Stuttgart, Germany
1930 - 1932	Private Docent, Munich, Germany
1932 - 1933	Lecturer in Physics, Tübingen
1933 - 1934	Manchester, England
1934 - 1935	Research Fellow, Bristol, England
1935	Assistant Professor of Physics, Cornell University
1937	Professor of Physics, Cornell, U.
1942 - 1943	Radiation Laboratory, MIT
1943 - 1946	Leave of Absence, DSM Project, Los Alamos, N. M.
	Head of Division of Theoretical Physics
1943	Named [redacted] Cornell University.

BETHE is a member of the following organizations according to data contained in his personnel file:

SIGMA XI; AMERICAN PHYSICAL SOCIETY; PHI KAPPA PHI; GAMMA ALPHA;  
NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES; AMERICAN ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY; NEW YORK ACADEMY  
OF SCIENCE AND ASSOCIATION OF SCIENTISTS OF CORNELL UNIVERSITY.

[redacted] stated that as a member of the staff of the Physics Department of Cornell University, BETHE is under his administrative supervision.

[redacted] stated that he has known BETHE ever since he first arrived at Cornell University in 1935 and that he has the highest regard for him from the standpoint of his ability, as a gentleman, and as a loyal and patriotic American citizen.

[redacted] stated that at no time has he had any cause to suspect or in any way question



AL 116-196

any of BETHE'S activities, associates or conduct. He pointed out that BETHE is in fact, a German refugee and that he fled from Germany to this country because of his disagreement with the Nazi philosophy ruling Germany at that time. [ ] stated that BETHE has frequently expressed himself as being anti-Nazi, anti-Communist and anti-totalitarian and very strongly pro-American and pro-Democratic. [ ] added that he knows BETHE is concerned over the present aggressive political tactics of Russia and that he feels that it is the responsibility of the U. S. to curb Russia in order to protect Democracy and freedom throughout the world.

With respect to the disposition of Atomic materials and the construction and disposition of Atomic weapons, [ ] stated that BETHE is inclined not to express himself on such topics but to leave the determination of policy respecting such matters to the officials of Government. [ ] described BETHE as being quiet, conservative, and mature and deliberate in his judgments respecting all matters within and without the field of science and is extremely highly regarded by all of his associates.

[ ] stated that he knows BETHE presently resides with his wife, [ ] and two children, [ ] and [ ] at [ ]. [ ] stated that Mrs. BETHE and the children were of excellent character and reputation; were similarly regarded as being patriotic American citizens and he could furnish no derogatory information whatever concerning the applicant or any members of his family.

DEAN CARLTON C. MURDOCK, Professor of Physics and Dean of the University Faculty, advised upon interview that he had known HANS ALBRECHT BETHE and had been associated with him since BETHE'S arrival at Cornell in 1935. Professor MURDOCK considered BETHE to be the highest type of gentleman from a standpoint of character and reputation and an intensely loyal citizen of the United States. MURDOCK described BETHE as being typically a "pure scientist" in that he occupied himself almost entirely with scientific research and did not associate with any individuals outside of his field. He described BETHE as being conservative in his opinions, shy and retiring of personality, at times giving the impression of a shy, bashful boy. MURDOCK stated that BETHE seldom makes any statements or comments of a political nature and when he does he is criticizing Nazi, Communist, or totalitarian philosophies and expressing himself in favor of Democracy and Americanism. He is grateful to the United States for accepting him, granting him American citizenship and permitting him to pursue his scientific endeavors in this country. Professor MURDOCK stated that he would not have the

AL 116-196

slightest apprehension over the loyalty and patriotism of Professor BETHE.

Professor MURDOCK pointed out that there was one member of the Physics Department's staff at Cornell who could be regarded as going to the opposite extreme of political expression, [redacted] MURDOCK stated that [redacted] is extremely liberal in his views, which in itself is not so uncommon among scientists but that [redacted] is highly outspoken criticizing Governmental interference and Governmental control of scientific research with respect to the development of atomic energy. b6 b7C

MURDOCK pointed out that while BETHE and [redacted] were staff members in the same department, they could not be regarded as close associates and that they had little or nothing in common aside from their professional associations. b6 b7C

[redacted] of the Cornell Laboratory of Nuclear Studies, advised upon interview that he had known Professor BETHE since 1940 and that he had been intimately acquainted with him since early in 1943, pointing out that he and BETHE worked very closely together at the Los Alamos Project. [redacted] stated that he had the highest regard for Professor BETHE describing him as a "pillar of strength" among a field of scientists, many of whom are noted for their diverse opinions in matters outside the field of science. [redacted] stated that BETHE is conservative, very calm, and deliberate in his judgments and is highly regarded by all who know and work with him. [redacted] pointed out that in the administrative set up at Cornell University, the Laboratory of Nuclear Studies is separate from the University Department of Physics although many men at Cornell are simultaneously staff members in the University Department of Physics and Research Staff members in the Laboratory of Nuclear Studies.

[redacted] of the Laboratory and [redacted] of the University's Physics Department, and these two men together with Professor BETHE constitute a committee of three responsible for coordinating the activities of these two administrative set ups. [redacted] pointed out that it is typical of the regard in which BETHE is held in that he is head man of this committee of three.

[redacted] stated that he knew BETHE to be conservative in his political opinions, seldom expressing himself on such matters being somewhat socialistic as are all true scientists, but so deeply loyal to the United States that he is content to let the appropriate Government officials determine the policy with respect to the political aspects of scientific matters.

[redacted] of Cornell University, advised that

AL 116-196

he lives in the same neighborhood as Professor BETHE and knows that BETHE resides with his wife, [redacted] and two children, [redacted] and [redacted] at [redacted]

[redacted] stated that Professor BETHE and all of his family are regarded as being of excellent reputation and loyal and patriotic to the Government of the United States and he knew nothing whatever derogatory concerning either BETHE or any members of his family.

[redacted] Tompkins County, Ithaca, New York made available the "Record of Petitions, Book No. 19" wherein was filed petition for naturalization No. 1295, Supreme Court of New York at Ithaca, N. Y. which reflected that a petition of naturalization for HANS ALBRECHT BETHE was granted by that court on February 10, 1941. Certificate of naturalization No. 5079504 was issued.

A certificate of arrival attached to this file reflected that BETHE arrived in the United States at the Port of New York from Bremen, Germany on February 8, 1935 on the SS "ALBERT BALLIN". He has lived in Ithaca, New York continuously since the date of his arrival in the United States. b2 b6 b7C

In his declaration of intention, BETHE stated that he was born at Strassbourg, France July 2, 1906 and that he was German. He listed his last foreign residence as Baden-Baden, Germany. He listed the maiden name of his wife as [redacted] and stated that they were married on September 14, 1939 at New Rochelle, New York. She was born at Munich, Germany [redacted] and entered the United States at New York City on April 30, 1936 and had not been naturalized as a citizen of the United States. b7D

[redacted] of Local Board No. 495, Ithaca, New York advised that her records reflected that Professor BETHE was a registrant of that Board and that he had been classified 4-A, over aged.

Confidential Informant [redacted] who is considered a reliable source of information, advised that the applicant is a member of the Executive of the Association of Scientists of Cornell University, which is a local organization at Cornell affiliated with the Federation of American Scientists. The informant advised that a number of the members of the latter organization, Federation of American Scientists, have been reported to be members of the Communist Party.

The informant stated that the only member of the Association of Scientists of Cornell University who has been reported as having Communist

AL 116-196

sympathies is [redacted] at Cornell since October, 1946, who was assigned to the DSM Project at Los Alamos, New Mexico from October, 1944 to September, 1946.

Confidential Informant [redacted] who is considered a reliable source, b2 advised that [redacted] was reported to have had Communist sympathies and to h b6 been a member of the Communist Party prior to leaving California in 1941, bu b7C that no such tendencies have been ascertained on the part of [redacted] since b7D time. No information has been received indicating that [redacted] is a CP memb or sympathizer since coming to Cornell University.

Associates of Professor BETHE at Cornell, interviewed and reported herein above, have stated that BETHE is not a close associate of [redacted] and that BETHE and [redacted] have no personal relationship except for occasionally attending social affairs to which all staff members are invited.

[redacted] Ithaca Retail Credit Bureau, advised that her records reflected that Professor BETHE and [redacted] have accounts in three local stores, one grocery store and two department stores and that their accounts are promptly paid and their credit rating is very good. The credit Bureau records reflected that BETHE presently lives at 209 White Park Road, Ithaca and that he has previously resided at 20 Remington Road, Ithaca from 1941 to 1942 and at 101 High Gate Road, Ithaca from 1935 to 1939.

The records of the Ithaca Police Department and the Tompkins County Sheriff's Office at Ithaca, New York, were checked concerning the applicant, but with negative results.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

AL 116-196

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

[REDACTED] Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] Washington, D. C. dated 1/28/47 in the case entitled "NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON ATOMIC INFORMATION, ET AL, INTERNAL SECURITY - C.

b2

b6

[REDACTED] Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] Chicago, Ill., dated 10/16/47 in the case entitled "NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON ATOMIC INFORMATION ET AL, INTERNAL SECURITY - C.

b7C

b7D

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

BUREAU

FILE NO. 116-225 JAS

REPORT MADE AT <b>BOSTON</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>4-12-47</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>4-9-47</b>	REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>
TITLE <b>HANS ALBERT BETHE - 15</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>ATOMIC ENERGY ACT - APPLICANT</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:** Records Radiation Laboratory, M.I.T., indicate applicant employed 10-1-42 to 4-5-43, as research physicist, and also indicate applicant brilliant man of genius type, who was educated in Germany. [redacted] graduate Physics Department, M.I.T., has known applicant since 1929, when they studied together at Munich. He states applicant is refugee from Germany, because of partial Jewish ancestry; is married to [redacted] of [redacted] of X-ray development fame. Applicant has world-wide reputation as scientist. Nothing derogatory. Neighborhood, credit, criminal records negative.

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b7C

- REC -

**REFERENCES:** Bureau File 116-2241.  
Bureau Letter dated 4-2-47.

AGENCY                       
REQ. REC'D                       
REP'T FORW.                       
BY                     

**DETAILS:** At Boston, Mass.

The reporting Agent interviewed [redacted] Bureau of Records, Radiation Laboratory, M. I. T., Cambridge, Mass. [redacted] advised that his records indicated that this applicant was employed at the Radiation Laboratory from October 1, 1942, to April 5, 1943, as a research physicist, and was a staff member. This was an O.S.R.D. project. This record indicated that the applicant was a graduate of the University of Frankfurt, Germany, in Physics, received PhD at Munich, and that he was on leave of absence from Cornell University, where he was Professor of Physics. He resided with his mother at

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT (3 - Bureau (116-2241) 2 - Boston		116-2241-	47-2-
<p style="text-align: center;">ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 04-04-2006 BY 60322/AUC/LP/CPB/PVR</p>			

Boston File 106-225

10 Forest St., Cambridge, Mass. The institute appraisal of the applicant was that he was an extremely valuable man, whose work in the Laboratory was to be set up as a model for everyone else to follow; that the applicant is brilliant and a genius type of professor. [redacted] advised the writer that the applicant worked with [redacted] of Physics.

The reporting Agent interviewed [redacted] who stated that he has known the applicant since around 1929, and that for several years they studied physics together at Munich, and other places in Germany which he could not recall. He stated that the applicant has a world-wide reputation as a great scientist and is actually a genius in the field of Physics. He stated that in connection with the development of the Atomic Bomb, the applicant was one of the top-most scientists connected with it. He stated that while his social contact with the applicant has been limited, and he has not seen him in a little over a year, he knows that the applicant is not politically minded and has no objectionable or radical ideas or tendencies. He stated that the applicant, while being a genius, is not a cockeyed genius that has good contact with the world around him, and is neither a misogynist nor a misanthrope. He stated that the applicant is either one half or one quarter Jewish on his mother's side and that this resulted in his being a refugee from Germany. He stated that right from the beginning, the applicant was unsympathetic with the Hitler regime. He said that the applicant's wife is the daughter of [redacted] of Stuttgart, Germany, who is famous for his work in connection with the development with the ex-ray. He stated that the applicant's father is a famous European professor. Dr. FRANK could not elaborate on this. He summed up by stating that the applicant is a frank, honest man of the highest status of American ideas and ideals.

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While employed at M.I.T., the applicant resided at 10 Forest St., Cambridge, Mass.

The writer further found that this was a sixteen apartment house and [redacted] advised that there is no one presently residing there who resided there at the time the applicant lived there. He stated he knew the applicant and his wife had a three-room apartment #15, and that the applicant was out most of the time, and that when he was around, he and his wife appeared to live very quietly together. They paid \$75. a month rent for this apartment.

Boston File 116-225

The records of the police department in Cambridge, Mass., were negative in the name of the Subject.

Miss Catherine Carolan, Massachusetts Board of Probation, advised the writer there was no record in the name of the applicant.

Credit Bureau of Greater Boston, advised that they had a request for data on the applicant in 1943. This indicated that he resided at 20 East Remington Road, Ithaca, New York, and had a good reputation. No derogatory data was found.

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- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -





United States Department of Justice  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO

FILE No. 116-2241

April 22, 1947

~~AIR MAIL~~

SAC, New York City

RE: HANS ALBRECHT BETHE - 15

ATOMIC ENERGY ACT  
APPLICANT (X)  
EMPLOYEE ( )

Dear Sir:

The Bureau file reflects you did not submit a report in the above-captioned case by the deadline date. You are instructed to immediately submit a report and to explain the reason for your delay.

If a report has been submitted, make a notation of the date on which it was submitted on this letter and return to the Bureau.

Very truly yours,

*J. E. Hoover*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 04-04-2006 BY 60322/AUC/LP/CPB/PVR

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Report submitted 4-18-47

Report will be submitted by \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for delay:

RECORDED

*Insufficient  
Personnel*

116-2241

Bethe, Hans Albrecht

W 1906 5-11

12 0 5 R-t 6  
1 17 A

#AEC-3 Bureau AEC Wash DC 8-27-47

*A search of the fingerprints on the above individual has failed to disclose prior criminal data.*

*J. Edgar Hoover*  
DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 04-04-2006 BY 60322/AUC/LP/CPB/PVR

60 SEP 6 - 1947

*105- file*

IEL SECURITY QUESTIONNAIRE

INSTRUCTIONS - All sections must be completed - Write none when applicable - Type or print all answers. If space not adequate for complete answers, attach a supplemental sheet to this form.

1. NAME (Last, First, Middle) (Office #3)  
Bethe, Hans Albrecht

2. OTHER NAMES (Include maiden name, if married woman)  
None

3. NORMAL HOME ADDRESS OR PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE FOR PAST 15 YEARS  
Ithaca, New York

4. ALL OTHER PERMANENT ADDRESSES FOR PAST 15 YEARS -  
(Apt. or R.F.D. No., Street, City, State, and dates there)

Since coming to this country in 1935:

312 Highland Road, 101 Highgate Road,  
104 Northway Road, 20 East Remington Road,  
(All in Ithaca, New York - 1935 to 1942).

10 Forest St., Cambridge, Mass. - 1942  
to 1943.

Los Alamos, N. M. - 1943 to 1946.

209 White Park Road, Ithaca, New York -  
1/46 to Date.

5. DESCRIPTION (Check which) ☒ MALE ☐ FEMALE  
RACE HEIGHT WEIGHT COLOR EYES COLOR HAIR  
White 5'11" 180 Blue Black

6. (Check which) ☐ SINGLE ☐ DIVORCED ☒ MARRIED ☐ WIDOW(ER)  
7. BIRTH DATE  
DAY MONTH YEAR  
2 7 1906

8. BIRTHPLACE (City, County, State or Country)

Strasbourg, Alsace-Lorraine, Germany

9. CITIZENSHIP USA By Naturalization

IF NATURALIZED: DATE  
2/10/41

CERTIFICATE NUMBER  
5079504

PLACE  
Ithaca, N. Y.

IF ALIEN: PORT OF ENTRY

DATE

ALIEN REGISTRATION NUMBER

10. DRAFT CLASSIFICATION  
2-B

BOARD NO. AND ADDRESS

#405, Ithaca, New York

11. SOCIAL SECURITY NO  
None

12. MILITARY SERVICE  
None

SERIAL NUMBER	BRANCH	FROM	TO (Yr.)

LEGAL RESIDENCE WHEN DISCHARGED

13. EDUCATION (All schools above elementary)

NAME OF SCHOOL	ADDRESS	FROM	TO (Yr.)	DEGREES
Univ. of Munich	Munich, Germany	4/26	7/28	Ph.D. - Physics
U. of Frankfurt on Main	Frankfurt on Main, Germany	4/24	4/26	
Goethe Gymnasium	"	4/15	4/24	

14. EMPLOYMENT (List all employment and dates)

DATE	TYPE OF WORK	NAME OF EMPLOYER (COMPANY OR ORGANIZATION)	ADDRESS (Where employed)
2/35 9/42	Professor	Cornell University	Ithaca, New York
10/42 4/43	Staff Member	Mass. Institute of Technology	Cambridge, Mass.

## 14. EMPLOYMENT (Cont'd.)

DATE	TYPE OF WORK	NAME OF EMPLOYER (COMPANY OR ORGANIZATION)	ADDRESS (where employed)
4/43 1/46	Scientist	University of California	Box 1663, Los Alamos, N. M.
1/46 to Date	Professor of Physics RFD SECTION	Cornell University	Ithaca, New York
<p>AUG 26 1947</p> <p>F. B. I.</p> <p>U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE</p>			

## 15. FOREIGN COUNTRIES VISITED (Since 1930) (Exclusive of military service)

COUNTRY	DATE LEFT U.S.A.	DATE RET'D U.S.A.	PURPOSE
Germany & England	7/7/35	9/20/35	Visit Parents
Germany & Switzerland	7/30/36	9/20/36	"
Germany	8/4/37	9/22/37	" - Vacation
England, Germany and Switzerland	7/20/38	9/25/38	" "
Canada	7/15/39	8/29/39	Vacation

16.

ALL ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIP

NAME, ADDRESS, TYPE (Inclusive dates and any office held)

American Physical Society - Scientific - Columbia Univ., N. Y., N. Y. - 1935 to Present.

N. Y. Academy of Science - Scientific - Central Park West, N. Y., N. Y. - 1939 to Present. b6  
b7C

Am. Astronomical Society - Scientific - Ann Arbor, Mich. - 1942 to Date.

Sigma Xi - Scientific Honor Soc. - Cornell Univ., Ithaca, N. Y. - 1935 to Date.

Phi Kappa Phi - Academic Honor Society " " " " - 1938 to Date.

National Academy of Scientists - Scientific - Washington, D. C. - 1943 to Date.

American Philosophical Society - Scientific - Philadelphia, Pa. - Since 1947.

17.

RELATIVES (parents, spouse, children, brothers and sisters, living or dead)

RELATION	NAME IN FULL	ADDRESS	COUNTRY OF BIRTH	PRESENT CITIZENSHIP
Father	Albrecht Bethe	99 Forsthaus Strasse Frankfurt on Main, Germany	Germany	Germany
Mother	Anna Nee Kuhn	Cryders Point Beechhurst, L.I., " "	"	"
Spouse			"	USA
Stepbrother			"	Germany
Stepsister			"	"

18. REFERENCES (Name three persons, not relatives or employers, who are well acquainted with you)		
NAME	ADDRESS	YEARS KNOWN
[Redacted]	Radiation Lab., M.I.T., Cambridge, Mass.	16
	Physics Dept., Harvard Univ., Cambridge, Mass.	12 b6 b7C
	R. C. A. Research Lab., Princeton, N. J.	12
EP 2 11 36 AM '4		

19. ARRESTS (Include all arrests and fines other than those for traffic violations)			
CHARGE	DATE	PLACE WHERE ARRESTED	DISPOSITION
None			
<p>The undersigned certifies that the Personnel Department of the University of California, Contract W-7405 eng. 36, has in its possession an application signed by the [Redacted]</p> <p>Date: AUG 18 1947</p> <p>[Redacted] Authorized Representative, Personnel Department</p>			

#### CERTIFICATION

I CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION CONTAINED ABOVE IS CORRECT AND COMPLETE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF. I UNDERSTAND THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES WILL INVESTIGATE THE INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN, AND THAT ANY FALSE STATEMENT IS SUFFICIENT CAUSE FOR REJECTION OF THE APPLICATION OR DISMISSAL AFTER APPOINTMENT.

DATE

USUAL SIGNATURE OR MARK OF EMPLOYEE (Sign Original Only)

TO BE FILLED OUT BY AGENCY OR FIRM EMPLOYING

AGENCY OR FIRM TO EMPLOY APPLICANT	ADDRESS	
University of California, Contractor to AEC	Box 1663, Los Alamos, N. M.	
BRIEF JOB DESCRIPTION (Job Title, Duties and Location - Description should not reveal classified information)	WILL APPLICANT HAVE ACCESS TO RESTRICTED DATA?	
<p>This individual is an applicant for a position as Consultant for T Division.</p> <p><b>Class Q</b></p> <p><b>"RE-INVESTIGATION"</b></p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted] Authorized Representative, Personnel Department</p> <p>SIGNATURE OF APPROVING AUTHORITY (OFFICIAL OF EMPLOYING COMPANY CERTIFYING AUTHORIZATION OF EMPLOYMENT)</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO (Check the one block applicable)	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FINGERPRINT CARD ATTACHED <input type="checkbox"/> T - 1 ATTACHED (RESULTS OF FBI FINGERPRINT FILE CHECK) <input type="checkbox"/> FBI IDENTIFICATION NUMBER	b6 b7C
	DO NOT COMPLETE SPACE BELOW	
	REFERRED TO F.B.I.  RECEIVED FROM F.B.I.	

202 U. S. Court House  
El Paso, Texas

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~

February 21, 1950

DIRECTOR, FBI

RE: HANS ALBRECHT BETHE - 15

CHARACTER:

AEAA

EP FILE NO:

116-239

ALBUQUERQUE FILE NO:

BUREAU FILE NO:

116-2241

Dear Sir:

Due to the opening of the New Mexico Office, the following indicated changes should be made in connection with the above-captioned case:

- ( ) Office of origin changed to Albuquerque.
- ( ☒ ) Entire file transferred to Albuquerque and this case is considered Referred Upon Completion to the Office of Origin by the El Paso Division.
- ( ) Following pertinent serials forwarded Albuquerque, N.M. Division and this case remains in a pending status in the El Paso Division. Office of origin is Bureau

Applicant's name also appears in following files: EP 100-4642, 100-2968-676,935 (latter sent to Albuq.), 100-3971-8, pg 1 (ALAS) 100-4160-1 pg 27, 42 (sent to Albuq.), 116-0-259, pg 2, 116-00-21, pg. 2,7, 116-17289-13. The above information is being forwarded to the Albuquerque Office in accordance with their request by letter dated 2/17/50 in the case entitled: FOOCASES; ESPIONAGE - R. Albuquerque file 65-6.

Albuquerque, N.M. Division will comprise the entire state of New Mexico beginning December 27, 1949. You should route reports and data pertaining to this case, according to the reallocation of territory.

pw:bgh  
ccs: Albuquerque

RECORDED - 140

Very truly yours,

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 04-04-2006 BY 60322/AUC/LP/CPB/PVR

BROWN

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : THE DIRECTOR

DATE:

FROM : D. H. Ladd

March 13, 1950

SUBJECT: HANS ALBRECHT DETHE

Pursuant to your instructions, I had prepared a summary of information in the Bureau's files concerning Dethe. This was delivered to Admiral Strauss this morning, March 13th. Attached is the file copy of the memorandum in question.

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. E. A. Tamm	✓
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	✓
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

EJM:CSH

RECORDED - 28



March 14, 1950

HANS ALBRECHT BETHE

BACKGROUND

Hans Albrecht Bethe was born on July 2, 1906, at Strasbourg, Alsace-Lorraine, Germany. He received his United States citizenship on February 10, 1941, at Ithaca, New York. His wife [redacted] was reported to have been the daughter of a professor in Germany who was famous for his work in connection with X-rays.

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Bethe received a Ph.D. Degree in Physics from the University of Frankfurt, Munich, Germany, in 1928. From 1928 to 1933, he was employed as a lecturer and teacher in Theoretical Physics in Germany. From 1933 to 1935, he resided in England, performing research at Manchester and Bristol, England. Since 1935 he has been a Professor of Physics at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York. From 1942 to 1945, he was connected with the Radiation Laboratory at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts. From 1945 to 1946, he was employed as a Division Leader in the Theoretical Physics Department of the University of California at Los Alamos, New Mexico. Since 1947 he has been a consultant for the Brookhaven National Laboratory and the University of California at Los Alamos, New Mexico.

HISTORY

Bethe was reported to have been a refugee from Germany, who was brought to the United States from England in February, 1935, by [redacted] formerly [redacted] of the Department of Physics, Cornell University. [redacted] of the Los Alamos Project, stated that Bethe made many major contributions toward developing practical applications of the "fission process" in the manufacture of the atom bomb. He ranked second only to [redacted] at the Los Alamos Project.

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INVESTIGATION

Bethe was investigated in March, 1947, as an Atomic Energy Consultant for the position of consultant at the Brookhaven National Laboratory, Long Island, New York. Associates and acquaintances reported that he was of excellent character and reputation, strongly anti-Nazi and anti-Communist. He reportedly did not associate closely with a fellow staff member, [redacted] at the University of Cornell, who was reported to have worked closely with the Communist Party although actual membership in the Party was never proven.

(110-3241-1,4,5,6)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

RECORDED 30

MAR 28 1950

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## CONTACTS AND ASSOCIATES

Bethe was interviewed in June, 1947, concerning his association with [redacted] who was at one time with the Physics Institute of the University of Rome, Italy. The Atomic Energy Commission, on April 24, 1947, advised that the Russians might be attempting to obtain information regarding the atomic bomb through the services of [redacted] who visited the United States in December, 1946. Bethe stated that he had known Amaldi since 1931. According to Bethe, the Manhattan Project was never discussed and [redacted] showed no concern or interest in atomic research for military purposes during [redacted] visit in 1946. Dr. Bethe stated that Amaldi was definitely opposed to Communism. [redacted] stated he was an associate of [redacted] at the University of Rome. According to [redacted] [redacted] was politically "left of center" and probably a Socialist, but of the type who does not believe in cooperation with Communists. Investigation failed to substantiate the allegation that the Russians may have been attempting to obtain information regarding the atomic bomb through [redacted]

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(117-87-10)  
Dr. Hans Bethe was also interviewed in May, 1947, concerning his association with [redacted] an admitted Communist Party member, who was discharged from the Los Alamos Atomic Energy Project as a poor security risk. Bethe claimed to have never been intimately acquainted with [redacted] although he worked in close association with him from 1943 to 1945. He stated that he knew nothing of a derogatory nature concerning [redacted] and had no reason to doubt his loyalty to the United States.

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(118-7730-14)  
Dr. Hans Bethe is reported to be a close associate of [redacted] [redacted] for the University of California at Los Alamos, New Mexico. Dr. Bethe described [redacted] on October 7, 1947, as one of the most prominent [redacted] in the world. He stated that he and [redacted] have had close scientific association since 1937. Dr. Bethe stated that [redacted] was strongly pro-democratic and anti-communistic. [redacted] was reported to be bitter toward the secret control of atomic information. [redacted] was reported in 1948 to be a member of organizations known to be Communist-infiltrated and to have corresponded with a scientist in Russia. Reliable informants reported that [redacted] was in contact with persons of at least Communist sympathy. [redacted] and other associates of [redacted] vouched for his loyalty to the United States.

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(116-2004-34)  
A highly confidential informant advised that in December, 1944, the KGB, a Soviet intelligence agency, was in possession of a list of individuals who were known to be connected with atomic energy. Included among the names of these individuals was the name of Hans Bethe.

(43-30110)

Dr. Bethe was interviewed on February 14, 1950, in connection with Emil [redacted]. He advised he had known [redacted] since 1934 when he met him at the University of Bristol in England. He stated that [redacted] visited him in Schenectady, New York, in the Summer of 1946, and at Ithaca, New York, in the Spring of 1948 or 1949. He advised that he had visited [redacted] in England [redacted] during the Summer of 1948. He claimed that he had never had reason to suspect [redacted] of espionage. He also stated that he had no knowledge of [redacted] ever attempting to elicit information from him.

(35-52007-333)

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#### MEMBERSHIP IN ORGANIZATIONS

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According to a mail cover placed on employees of the Los Alamos Project on October 29, 1943, by Army Intelligence, Bethe received an appeal for funds from the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, 1123 Broadway, New York City. The National Federation for Constitutional Liberties has been cited by the Attorney General as being within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

(100-190025-53)

Bethe was a member of the Executive Committee of the Association of Scientists of Cornell University, an affiliate of the Federation of American Scientists. The Federation of American Scientists was reported to have had a number of members who were also members of the Communist Party.

(100-1041-5)

Dr. Hans Bethe was named in an article appearing in the Washington Times Herald for February 14, 1947, as a trustee of the Emergency Committee of Atomic Scientists, Inc., headed by Albert Einstein. The article reported that the committee was attempting to raise \$1,000,000 to finance efforts to divulge information concerning atomic energy, which the American Government is trying to keep secret as a safeguard against international trouble. The article quoted a form letter of the committee as referring to the "outmoded concept of narrow nationalisms." The letter, according to the news article, warned that there is no defense and no possible control of this basic power and furthermore that there is no secret concerning it.

(100-128104-6)

The "Ithaca Journal" for October 8, 1949, contained an article on a meeting held by the Association of Scientists of Cornell University on October 7, 1949. Its principal speaker Dr. Bethe was quoted as having called for free international exchange of scientific information about the atomic bomb. Concerning President Truman's disclosure of an atomic explosion in Russia, Bethe stated he saw no reason why we should not now release secret information, including the top secret figure on the critical mass needed. He was quoted as having ruled out the possibility that security

leaks, notably the alleged release of a mysterious formula by Scientist-1, could have helped the Russians in any way. This statement refers to the incident involving Joseph Woodrow Weinberg, who was identified in the press as Scientist-X. Weinberg was alleged to have advised Steve Nelson in March, 1945, concerning experiments at the Radiation Laboratory at Berkeley, California. Dr. Bethe was also quoted as saying that the release of basic information will not tell the Russians anything they do not know.

(100-3-41452)

In the early part of 1946, Hans Bethe collaborated with other members of the Federation of American Scientists in the preparation of a book entitled "One World or None." The purpose of the book was to give an informal picture of the ramifications of the subject of atomic energy. It warned the public that the control of atomic energy is an essential of human survival. The film rights to this book were sold to the United Productions of America in May, 1946. Three officials of the above organization were reported to be members of the Communist Party.

(100-3-453)

PRESS COMMENTS ON BETHE RE FUCHS

The Washington "Sunday Star" for February 5, 1950, contained an article concerning Fuchs. This article reports comments made by Dr. Bethe and other scientists on February 4, 1950, at Columbia University where a meeting of the American Physical Association was being held. Dr. Bethe was quoted as stating that he was one of the few people Fuchs associated with at Los Alamos, New Mexico, and that they were very friendly. The article quoted Bethe as stating, "I didn't know about his real opinions. If he was a spy he played his role absolutely perfectly." Dr. Bethe is reported to have also stated that Fuchs was not prominent in urging international exchange of scientific information. Dr. Bethe stated that Fuchs was one of the most valuable men in his division at Los Alamos; "everybody liked him... We made an extremely great contribution." Concerning Fuchs' background, the article quotes Dr. Bethe as stating that "His father was quite prominent in the Church... so I never suspected him of anything like being a Communist. As a man of the Church his father strongly opposed Hitler and went to prison for that in Germany, which is all to his credit. He was of that group of outspoken clergymen opposing Hitler."

Dr. Bethe was also quoted as stating that, "We need Britain to help us... Now we believe they will be shut off from our work... We have to keep our friends."

The "Journal American" newspaper of New York City for February 5, 1950, also carried an article concerning Fuchs in which Dr. Bethe is quoted as stating, "I knew Fuchs well. I considered him a first class man, from a scientific standpoint. At the time I knew him, I never questioned his loyalty." Dr. Bethe is also quoted as stating that America's "closely guarded" secrets on hydrogen bombs are now "no longer secrets."

(65-58805-Sub-A)

Information was received from one of the press correspondents that following the issuance of the public statement, referred to above, on February 4, 1950, Dr. Bethe commented, off the record, that he could understand why Fuchs did what he did. He was reported to have sympathized with Fuchs' attitude because, "After all, a scientist is of the world and works for the world."

SE 7

October 12, 1953

DECLASSIFIED BY 9040 BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

4/11/77

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The Honorable  
The Postmaster General  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Postmaster General:

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This will acknowledge your communication dated October 9, 1953, enclosing a letter to you from [redacted]

It is noted that [redacted] reports that a friend who lives in Sheraton, and who is an author on atomic defense, has knowledge that [redacted]

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and [redacted] (Dr. Hans A. Bethe), of Cornell University, are Communists. According to [redacted] the friend is named [redacted] and [redacted]

Inasmuch as information concerning possible Communist activities on the part of [redacted] and Bethe are of interest to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, I would appreciate being informed of the name and address of [redacted] in order that arrangements can be made to have him interviewed by a representative of the Federal Bureau of Investigation for more complete details. If you desire, we will not disclose your identity during the course of the proposed interview with him.

I wish to thank you for bringing this matter to my attention and it will be appreciated if you will advise of the identity of [redacted] as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,

**NOTE:** When the Postmaster General replies with the identity of [redacted] will be interviewed for all available data in his possession concerning the Communist activities of [redacted] and Bethe.

100-1 [redacted]  
cc 116- [redacted] (Hans A. Bethe)  
JEM:eme

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

SECURITY INFORMATION - [redacted]



4  
Subj: Bethe Hanes Albrecht 4-22

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_ SUPV: \_\_\_\_\_

Misc: \_\_\_\_\_

B# 955 Date 5-15 Searcher Initial 5-15

17 116 FILE NUMBER 116-224 SERIAL 42117 JUN 26 1952 U.T.D. 42117 42117

65-60393 all sec. ref. summary 10-30-52

133-8-4 summary 10-30-52

116-224-11 summary 10-30-52

65-60393-48 summary 10-30-52

100-361102-36 10-12-52

100-361102-A Herald Tribune

Bethe Hanes

65-58805-1534

10-17828-336 p56, 68

U.T.D. Summary 10-30-52

65-60393-48



summary  
BBA

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 05-19-2006 BY 60322/AUC/LP/CPB/PVR



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

6-1

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

SAC,

AIR MAIL

RE:

ATOMIC ENERGY ACT - EMPLOYEE

REINVESTIGATION

Dear Sir:

You are instructed to conduct an immediate, thorough, discreet investigation concerning the character, associates, and loyalty of the above-named individual in accordance with the provisions of the Atomic Energy Act of 1946.

Reports and correspondence in this case should reflect the character as AEAE.

At the request of the Atomic Energy Commission the Bureau has consented to make inquiries on certain of its employees for the purpose of bringing the original applicant investigation up-to-date. These employees occupy very sensitive positions; therefore, all inquiries must be thorough and all inclusive.

The employee's entire adult life must be accounted for. If this was not done during the original investigation it will be necessary to account for the adult life during instant investigation.

The scope of the current investigation must include interviews with present neighbors, associates, acquaintances, and whenever desirable confidential informants should be contacted. Credit and criminal checks should be made on the employee. The same checks should be made on his immediate relatives at their known place of residence.

Those asking questions pertaining to the purpose of this investigation should be advised that the inquiries are being made at the request of the AEC and are of a routine nature.

The original and four copies of the report are to be transmitted to the Bureau by air mail unless ordinary mail is equally speedy. The deadline in this case is

Present address:

Birthdate and birthplace:

Social Security Number:

Firm to employ and position involved:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 04-04-2006 BY 60322/AUC/LP/CPB/PVR

Very truly yours,

J. E. Hoover  
John Edgar Hoover  
Director



RE: HANS ALBRECHT BETHE - NY - SF - 3199

A E A E

Conduct full investigation

ALBANY - See your file 100-12000, on employee. Bring investigation up to date.

Note: Employee has been investigated as Espionage - R subject with Albany office of origin.

*Initials on  
seal stamp*

*#79*

*info - CSC file*

*Ben & Co. 7/2/51*

*Reference*

*2. 10. 6. 1951  
at Council*

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, ALBUQUERQUE (Your file ) DATE: 11-13-53

FROM : Director, FBI

SUBJECT: HANS ALBRECHT BETHE - NY - SF - 3199

AEA-E

BUDED 9-25-53

(X) The deadline in this case has passed and the Bureau has not received a report. You are instructed to immediately submit a report. In the event a report has been submitted, you should make a notation of the date on which it was submitted on this letter and return it to the Bureau.

(RE ALBANY LET 8-26-53 AND ALBANY AIRTEL 8-26-53)

Report submitted \_\_\_\_\_

Report will be submitted \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for delay \_\_\_\_\_

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 04-04-2006 BY 60322/AUC/LP/CPB/PVR

- ( ) Advise Bureau re status of this case.
- ( ) Advise Bureau when report may be expected.
- ( ) Surep immediately.

116-19480

(Place your reply on this form and return to the Bureau. Note on the top serial in the case file the receipt and acknowledgment of this communication.)

*Office Memorandum* • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, ALBUQUERQUE (Your file ) DATE: 10-23-53

FROM : Director, FBI

SUBJECT: HANS ALBRECHT BETHE - NY - SF - 3199

AEA-E

BUDED 9-25-53

(X) The deadline in this case has passed and the Bureau has not received a report. You are instructed to immediately submit a report. In the event a report has been submitted, you should make a notation of the date on which it was submitted on this letter and return it to the Bureau.

(REALBANY LET 8-26-53 AND ALBANY AIRTEL 8-26-53)

Report submitted \_\_\_\_\_

Report will be submitted \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for delay \_\_\_\_\_

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 04-04-2006 BY 60322/AUC/LP/CPB/PVR

- ( ) Advise Bureau re status of this case.
- ( ) Advise Bureau when report may be expected.
- ( ) Surep immediately.

(Place your reply on this form and return to the Bureau. Note on the top serial in the case file the receipt and acknowledgment of this communication.)

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, ALBUQUERQUE (Your file ) DATE: 10-12-53

FROM : Director, FBI

SUBJECT: HANS ALBRECHT BETHE - NY - SF - 3199  
AEA-E  
BUDED 9-25-53

(X) The deadline in this case has passed and the Bureau has not received a report. You are instructed to immediately submit a report. In the event a report has been submitted, you should make a notation of the date on which it was submitted on this letter and return it to the Bureau.

(RE ALBANY LET 8-26-53 AND ALBANY AIRTEL 8-26-53)

Report submitted \_\_\_\_\_

Report will be submitted 1/15/53

Reason for delay \_\_\_\_\_

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 04-04-2006 BY 60322/AUC/LP/CPB/PVR

- ( ) Advise Bureau re status of this case.
- ( ) Advise Bureau when report may be expected.
- ( ) Surep immediately.

(Place your reply on this form and return to the Bureau. Note on the top Serial in the case file the receipt and acknowledgment of this communication.)

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (File 116-2241) DATE: 9-28-53  
FROM : <sup>HVB</sup> SAC, New York (File 116-500)  
SUBJECT: HANS ALBRECHT BETHE - N.Y.-SF-3199  
NEAE

This case will be delinquent.

Date of Bureau deadline: 9-25-53

Reason for the delinquency: DIFFICULTY IN CONTACTING  
FELLOW-EMPLOYEES AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY  
DUE TO REGISTRATION WEEK

Date the report or necessary communication  
will reach the Bureau: 10-2-53

AEC zone designation, e.g., OR, CH, etc.:  
(This applies only to 116 cases.)

JSD:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 04-04-2006 BY 60322/AUC/LP/CPB/PVR

UNITED STATES  
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

IN REPLY REFER TO:

SP:FH

May 15, 1953

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
U. S. Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Mr. G. C. Callan

Subject: HANS ALBRECHT BETHE, 3199-NY-SF REINVESTIGATION

Dear Mr. Hoover:

the  
There are attached hereto ~~three copies of~~ Personnel  
( ) fingerprint card  
Security Questionnaire and ( ) FBI Form T-1  
( ) FBI Form T-2

for the above-named individual who has been investigated  
previously by the Bureau under the provisions of the Atomic  
Energy Act of 1946.

It is requested that a reinvestigation relative to this  
individual be conducted and that we be furnished with the  
results at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely yours,

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 04-04-2006 BY 60322/AUC/LP/CPB/PVR

Francis Hammack, Chief  
Personnel Committee Division  
JULY 2, 1906

HANS ALBRECHT BETHE-NY-SF-3199  
Have identical. No original record.

Enclosure: 4/21/53

New PSQ (unrated), to be returned to AEC by FBI. *not*  
(FPC, T-1 or T-2 not available.)

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FORM No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT BUREAU

FILE NO.

REPORT MADE AT ALBUQUERQUE	DATE WHEN MADE 12/24/53	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 10/7;12/1,2,9-11, 14,16,18,20/53	REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 20px;"></div>	CAR
TITLE HANS ALBRECHT BETHE - NY - SF - 3199			CHARACTER OF CASE AEA E	
			b6 b7C	

## SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

REFERENCE: Bureau letter to Albany dated July 27, 1953.  
Report of SA  dated April 14, 1947, at El Paso.

*Provenance*  
212

## DETAILS:

The investigation at Santa Fe, New Mexico, was conducted by  
SA

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 04-04-2006 BY 60322/AUC/LP/CPB/PVR

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau (116-2241) AM 1 - Albuquerque (116-19480)		<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 100px; position: relative;"><div style="position: absolute; top: 0; right: 0;">116-19480</div><div style="position: absolute; bottom: 0; left: 0;">10/</div></div>	

PROPERTY OF FBI - This confidential report and its contents are loaned to you by the FBI and are not to be distributed outside of agency to which loaned.

EMPLOYMENT

At Los Alamos, New Mexico

Personnel records of the University of California at Los Alamos, made available by [redacted] reflect that Dr. BETHE was employed as a research group leader in the Theoretical Physics Division of the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory from April 1, 1943, to January 11, 1946, when he voluntarily resigned to return to his former position at Cornell University. The records reflect that he has been continuously retained as a consultant to the Theoretical Physics Division of the University of California at Los Alamos from April 1, 1946, to the present, and that in such capacity he has been physically present at Los Alamos during the following indicated periods:

Four days in 1946  
5 days in 1947  
7 days in 1948  
July 4 to July 8, 1949  
December 28, 1950 to January 28, 1951  
February 3, 1952 to September 10, 1952  
May 1, 1953, to September 12, 1953.

The records further indicate that at various times between 1946 and present Dr. BETHE has also been paid for performing considerable consultant work for the University of California while he physically remained at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York. He is presently paid for such services at the rate of \$120.00 per day.

Instant personnel records reflect that Dr. BETHE was born on July 2, 1906, at Strasbourg, Germany, and that he was naturalized as a citizen of the United States at Ithaca, New York, on February 10, 1941. On a Personnel Security Questionnaire executed for the University of California and the Atomic Energy Commission under date of August 18, 1947, he indicated that his father, ALBRECHT BETHE, was then living at Frankfurt-on-Main, Germany, and that he had one step-brother and one step-sister at the same address as his father. He indicated that his mother, ANNA BETHE, nee KUHN, resided in Long Island, New York, and that his [redacted] was also born in Germany. Additional records in possession of the University of California at Los Alamos reflect that [redacted] was born on [redacted] at Munich, Germany, and that she was naturalized as a citizen of the United States on November 10, 1941, at Ithaca, New York. On a similar Personnel Security Questionnaire executed by [redacted] under date of April 17, 1943, she indicated that her parents, PETER PAUL and ELIA EWALD, both



AQ 62-228 & AQ 116-19480

born in Germany, were at that time residing in Belfast, Ireland. The instant personnel records do not contain any information unfavorable to either Dr. or Mrs. BETHE in any respect.

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[redacted] Theoretical Physics Division, University of California at Los Alamos, advised that he first met Dr. BETHE at Los Alamos in the spring of 1945 and that he had some but not constant contact with him during that year. From 1946 through 1949 [redacted] had occasional contact with BETHE at Cornell University, and from 1950 to the present he has worked very closely with him whenever he has been at Los Alamos, with occasional consultation meetings at Cornell University or other places. He also indicated that he has had considerable social contact with BETHE and his wife and stated that he is certain that he has had more contact with Dr. BETHE than anyone else presently at Los Alamos..

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[redacted] stated that BETHE is "extremely capable" as one of the outstanding physicists in the world; that he is honest and conscientious to a degree, and that he is very methodical and thorough on any type of work that he may engage in. He stated that he has never had any reason whatsoever to question the basic loyalty of Dr. BETHE to the United States, and that he is certain that Dr. BETHE entertains a very definite feeling for the desirability of life under a free, democratic form of government. He advised that the mothers of both Dr. BETHE and his wife presently reside in the vicinity of New York City; that he is not certain as to whether either of their fathers are now living, and that to the best of his knowledge neither of them attempt to maintain any particular contact with any possible relative or other individual presently residing in Europe

[redacted] advised that some individuals may have indicated some criticism of Dr. BETHE because of his apparent lack of active participation in the weapons development program between 1946 and 1950, and that he believes that during such period BETHE did entertain considerable hope that development of greater weapons would not be necessary, and that a way might be found for permanent peace. But he stated definitely that he has never known BETHE to offer any active or actual vocal opposition to development of greater weapons, specifically the H-Bomb, and that to the contrary BETHE was actually in favor of its development all the time, if possible, although until about 1950 he was not convinced that it was feasible or workable. He advised that after BETHE's feeling of urgency of the need for such a weapon increased, which was about the same time that he became convinced that it was feasible, he devoted his most sincere efforts unselfishly to the project which resulted in immeasurable benefits. He also pointed out that during the period of 1946 through 1949, BETHE was very busy with his academic work at Cornell University and also performed considerable work at Knolls Laboratory near there. He further stated that he personally has always found BETHE to be

AQ 62-228 & AQ 116-19480

entirely cooperative in any possible approach that he has made to him in connection with the defense or weapons program of the United States.

[redacted] informed that the only organizations that he has ever known BETHE to be affiliated with have been purely professional scientific organizations and the Federation of American Scientists. In regard to the latter organization, he advised that BETHE has been a fairly active member for some time; that he has not held a national office only because he has refused to indicate that he would accept same if offered, and that he believes that BETHE has offered members of the organization very "sound" advice on several instances, none of which was to the possible detriment of the United States.

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In regard to the past or present associates of BETHE, [redacted] stated that nearly all of his associates have common professional interests and that he believes that he has been the most intimate with [redacted] former member of the Atomic Energy Commission, [redacted] with whom he formerly worked closely but has not contacted very frequently within the past three years, and [redacted] of the Institute for Advanced Study of Princeton University. He also advised that BETHE has been quite friendly with [redacted] over a long period of years although they sometimes do not entertain like views on some subjects. He advised that to the best of his knowledge all of these individuals are entirely loyal citizens. [redacted] also informed that he has known BETHE to visit with [redacted] on one or two occasions during the time BETHE was working at Los Alamos, but that he believes that this was due only to the fact that he entertains some sympathy for [redacted] as well as consideration for [redacted] and does not indicate that he has ever had any close personal association with him.

In regard to BETHE's association with [redacted] advised that [redacted] has been a member of the faculty in the Department of Physics at Cornell University for the past several years and that BETHE has had considerable contact with him both of a professional and a social nature. He further pointed out that they worked together at Los Alamos during World War II. He stated that BETHE has undoubtedly defended [redacted] right to his personal beliefs or to make statements that he desires to, with the University officials at Cornell University, probably on the basis of his belief in academic freedom, but he has definitely never heard him indicate in any way that he personally entertained any sympathy for similar ideologies. He furthermore has never heard him offer any objection or opposition to the action of the Atomic Energy Commission in revoking or removing the "clearance" of [redacted] for access to restricted data. He stated that he has never had

any reason whatsoever to believe that BETHE has in any way furnished [redacted] any type of possibly confidential or restricted information since the expiration of his clearance for such access. He further advised that he does not personally believe that there is any appreciable danger in their continued association because Dr. BETHE is such a methodical personality that there is very little risk that he would ever give [redacted] or any other unauthorized individual, confidential informant either intentionally or inadvertently.

[redacted] concluded that he has never known Dr. BETHE to offer any opposition whatsoever to any type of reasonable security rules or regulations, and that he considers him to be completely trustworthy with the highest type of confidential information, notwithstanding his continued association with [redacted]

In regard to the aforementioned [redacted] the "Albuquerque Journal" newspaper of May 10, 1953, contained an INS article datelined May 9, 1953, at Ithaca, New York, stating that Prof. PHILIP MORRISON had told a Senate Investigating Sub-Committee at Boston, Mass., on that date that "he had been a communist."

In regard to the aforementioned [redacted] files of the House Un-American Activities Committee reflect that [redacted] testified before that committee in the forepart of 1951 and admitted that he had formerly been a member of the communist party. The communist party has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

[redacted]  
[redacted] Theoretical Physics Division, University of California at Los Alamos, advised that he first met Dr. BETHE at Los Alamos about 1944 and that he had occasional contact with him from that time to 1951. He explained that even when he, [redacted] was not actively employed at Los Alamos he served as a member and secretary of the Senior Responsible Review Committee of the Atomic Energy Commission, and in such capacity also had some professional contact with him. He further explained that from 1951 to 1953 he worked very closely with BETHE at Los Alamos and at Cornell University, but stated that irregardless of such contact he does not personally feel that he is more than casually acquainted with BETHE and described him as a very "complex individual" who retains a certain amount of "aloofness" and "arrogance" in his dealings with associates. He further advised that in his opinion BETHE is a man who seldom changes his opinion once it is clearly formed, but that on the other hand he is not one to fail to devote his best efforts to any

work that he undertakes simply because he may not be in complete accord with the desirability of any work or project. In this connection, [ ] advised that BETHE did originally oppose the attempt of the United States to develop the H-Bomb but that he did so only because he felt that it might not be entirely feasible and that efforts in that direction would only lead Russia to devote great efforts toward development of a similar weapon which might someday be used against the United States. He further stated definitely that when the objections of BETHE and others were overruled and the Presidential Announcement of research in that direction was made, BETHE felt that if a whole-hearted effort was not made by nearly all of the scientific personnel in this country the project might fall short of expectations and only serve to further stimulate the Russians, a possibility which he considered to be very dangerous and undesirable. He stated that he is certain that Dr. BETHE has worked very hard on the H-Bomb project since early in 1950, and that he has conscientiously devoted his most sincere effort and has made many contributions of immeasurable value.

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[ ] stated that he has never had any reason to question the character, integrity or loyalty of Dr. BETHE to the United States or the democratic form of government in any respect. He has never known him to be affiliated with any organizations except professional societies and the FEDERATION OF AMERICAN SCIENTISTS. In regard to his associates, he advised that BETHE has for many years been a close associate and "follower" of [ ] and that in his opinion he still has considerable contact and retains great faith in [ ]. He has not known him to have any appreciable amount of contact with [ ]. He advised that BETHE continues to have a considerable amount of contact, both professional and social, with [ ] at Cornell University and that BETHE has defended [ ] to university officials on the basis of academic freedom and as a matter of principle, although he has never known him to condone [ ] activities in connection with communistically infiltrated organizations or to indicate any sympathy for his apparent ideologies. He added that he has actually never known BETHE and [ ] to discuss political ideologies and that he personally does not believe that they ever have engaged in such a discussion to any appreciable extent. He also advised that he heard BETHE state in the spring of 1953 that he has never given [ ] access to any type of confidential or restricted information subsequent to the time that he was advised not to by the AEC about 1947. [ ] stated that he has never had any reason to doubt this statement of BETHE, and that to the best of his knowledge BETHE has always been quite discreet in his conversations and has never discussed possibly restricted data with any unauthorized individual, or unnecessarily discussed such information with properly cleared people. He advised that BETHE may have overlooked some minor security regulations in the past, or left them for other individuals to handle, but that he has in general been thoroughly observant and in accord with necessary security precautions. He stated that in his opinion BETHE has always had a very commendable attitude on "Classification Letters," and that although he has spent considerable time in thought on

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the matter, he has never actually advocated much "declassification" of pertinent material or any sharing of such data with other countries.

[redacted] Theoretical Physics Division, University of California at Los Alamos, advised that he has known Dr. BETHE professionally and to some extent socially from 1946 to the present. He stated that both BETHE and his wife are entirely honest, responsible individuals of good character, and that he has never had any reason to question their loyalty to the United States of the democratic form of government in any respect. He has only known BETHE to be affiliated with the American Physical Society and stated that he has only known him to associate with scientists who are very highly regarded professionally and who to the best of his knowledge are loyal citizens. He has no personal knowledge of BETHE's possible association with [redacted] or [redacted]. He stated that he has never known Dr. BETHE to be indiscreet in his conversations on any type of restricted information or to disregard security regulations or precautions in any manner. He concluded that to the best of his knowledge he is a thoroughly trustworthy person.

[redacted] University of California at Los Alamos, advised that he studied and worked under Dr. BETHE's direction at Cornell University from 1950 to 1952 and that since the forepart of 1952 he has had some professional and some casual social contact with him at Los Alamos. He stated that he has always found Dr. BETHE to be a thoroughly honest and responsible individual, of outstanding intelligence, and that he has never had any reason to question his loyalty to the United States or the democratic form of government in any respect. [redacted] explained that because he possessed appropriate clearance while attending Cornell University on an AEC Fellowship grant, he was able to assist Dr. BETHE in his work with some classified data there, and that he never knew him to violate any security rules or regulations or to offer any possible opposition to such regulations. He did not know him to be affiliated with any organizations and did not know his particular associates. He concluded that to the best of his knowledge and belief, Dr. BETHE can be completely trusted with the highest type of confidential information.

[redacted] Theoretical Physics Division, University of California at Los Alamos, advised that he has had considerable professional contact with Dr. BETHE between 1950 and the present. He stated that BETHE is a man of "tremendous capabilities", and that to the best of his knowledge, his character, integrity and loyalty to the United States is unimpeachable. He added that he has always found Dr. BETHE to be discreet in

AQ 62-228 & AQ 116-19480

his conversations and scrupulous in his observation of security regulations. He has not had any knowledge of his organizational affiliation or particular associates, but considers him to be a thoroughly trustworthy individual.

[redacted]  
[redacted] University of California at Los Alamos, advised that he has known Dr. BETHE as a "very top level" scientist and consultant at the Los Alamos Laboratory since 1944. He has been acquainted with Dr. BETHE's wife but has never known any of his other possible relatives. He stated that to the best of his knowledge BETHE is an individual of unimpeachable character and reputation, and that he is entirely loyal to the United States and the democratic form of government. He stated that although BETHE apparently believed, as did [redacted] that a "great deal of thought should be given the matter" prior to any attempt to develop a type of H-Bomb or any such weapon of tremendous power, once the decision was made he contributed his work and efforts unselfishly and whenever he felt that he could be of value to the project. He further advised that although BETHE performed little work for the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory during the period of 1946 to 1949, he was active on other defense projects and was not requested or simply could not devote any more time or effort than he did during that period. [redacted] advised that he has not had any knowledge of the organizational affiliation of BETHE, but that he has known him to be a very close personal friend of [redacted]. He does not believe that he has ever been an intimate friend of [redacted].

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[redacted] He has not had direct knowledge of the degree of association between BETHE and [redacted] but is cognizant of the fact that BETHE has urged Cornell University officials to retain [redacted] as a member of the faculty, which action he believes is only because of BETHE's belief in academic freedom and the fact that he does not now consider that [redacted] could be a "security risk" in such position due to the fact that he has not had access to any restricted data for a period of several years.

[redacted] advised that he has always found BETHE to entertain a very commendable and cooperative attitude in all his dealings with him relative to classification and security matters, although he may have some tendency to overlook minor details or leave them to someone else. To the best of his knowledge BETHE has always been discreet and methodical in his conversations relative to restricted data, and is a trustworthy individual.

[redacted] University of California at Los Alamos, advised that in the summer of 1953 while Dr. BETHE was at Los Alamos, he requested his assistance in obtaining information from the inactive personnel file of the University of California relative to [redacted] explained that inasmuch as BETHE as a laboratory

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AQ 62-228 & AQ 116-19480

official was entitled to access to such files if he desired it, he did obtain the instant personnel file and allow BETHE to examine same in his presence. He stated that at that time Dr. BETHE was apparently attempting to determine if [ ] had deliberately furnished false statements to conceal possible connection with communist party organizations at the time he was employed at Los Alamos during World War II. He indicated that [ ] had claimed that he had not falsified the Personnel Security Questionnaires or affidavit executed by him in connection with such employment because he had only been asked to submit or indicate "current" organizational affiliation, and he was not an active member of the communist party at that time. [ ] advised that [ ] did not list any current or former affiliation with the communist party, or any obviously communist controlled organizations on any PSQ executed by him for the University of California even though the questionnaire clearly specified that he should have listed all former as well as current organizational membership. [ ] advised that BETHE did not make any specific comments following his examination of the records, but that he received the impression that BETHE desired this information only to determine the degree of support that he might give [ ] in the future in connection with his continued employment at Cornell University. He stated specifically that BETHE did not in any way indicate that he was anticipating any type of exception or objection to the denial of clearance to [ ] by the Atomic Energy Commission. [ ] could not furnish any additional information relative to Dr. BETHE. .

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#### NEIGHBORS AND ACQUAINTANCES

##### At Los Alamos, New Mexico

Resident housing assignment records of the Zia Company Housing Office, made available by [ ] reflect that Dr. BETHE and his wife have been assigned below designated resident quarters at Los Alamos on the indicated dates:

3920-A Trinity Drive, June 30, 1949 to September 10, 1949;  
1016 - 49th Street, February 6, 1952, to September 9, 1952;  
794-A 46th Street, June 17, 1953, to September 11, 1953.

[ ] Theoretical Physics Division, University of California, advised that whenever Dr. BETHE has been at Los Alamos on other than during the above periods, he only occupied temporary transit accommodations at the Lodge and did not maintain any type of permanent residence.

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[ ] Zia Company, advised that



AQ 62-228 & AQ 116-19480

that he formerly resided at 3920-B Trinity Drive, and knew Dr. BETHE and his wife casually as close neighbors at that address for a period of about two months in the summer of 1949. He stated that they appeared to be very respectable people of good character, and that he did not have any reason to question their loyalty in any way. He advised that the only particular associate of Dr. BETHE that he was able to identify during that time was [redacted]

[redacted] 1038 - 49th Street, advised that he knew Dr. BETHE and his wife as next door neighbors for about seven months in 1952 and had some neighborly contact with them during that time. He stated that he found them to be very respectable and responsible people who appeared to be entirely loyal and patriotic citizens. He did not know anything about any possible relatives of either Dr. or Mrs. BETHE and advised that their only particular associates in that neighborhood were [redacted] and [redacted] who are entirely loyal citizens to the best of his knowledge.

[redacted] Zia Company, 1060-A 49th Street, advised that he knew Dr. BETHE and his wife rather casually as neighbors during a period of about seven months in 1952. He stated that to the best of his knowledge they were very respectable and responsible individuals as well as entirely loyal and patriotic citizens. He did not know of any organization that either may have been affiliated with, and only knew them to particularly associate with [redacted] who also reside in the same neighborhood and are likewise loyal citizens to the best of his knowledge.

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[redacted] 794-B 46th Street, and [redacted] 774 - 56th Street, each advised that he knew Dr. BETHE and his wife very casually as neighbors residing at 794-A 46th Street for a period of two or three months in the summer of 1953. Each explained that the BETHEs did not have any appreciable contact with anyone in that neighborhood during the short time they resided there, but each stated that they appeared to be entirely responsible people of good character and he did not have any reason to question their loyalty in any way. Each advised that the only person that he knew them to particularly associate with during that period was [redacted]

CREDIT

At Santa Fe, New Mexico

[redacted] Merchant's Credit Service, which covers

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AQ 62-228 & AQ 116-19480

Los Alamos, New Mexico, advised that records of that agency do not contain any information unfavorable to Dr. BETHE or his wife.

#### CRIMINAL DATA

##### At Santa Fe, New Mexico

The records of the New Mexico State Police were checked with negative results in that they do not reflect any criminal data relative to Dr. BETHE or his wife.

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##### At Los Alamos, New Mexico

The records of the Los Alamos Police Department were checked with negative results in that they do not reflect any criminal data relative to Dr. BETHE or his wife.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

##### At Los Alamos, New Mexico

Albuquerque Confidential Informant [ ] of known reliability, advised that shortly before commencement of the trial of JULIUS and ETHEL ROSENBERG on charges of espionage in Federal District Court at New York City, an attorney for the ROSENBERG's directed a letter to HANS BETHE and other outstanding scientists in the United States in which he asked a number of leading questions relative to the possible importance of information furnished Russian espionage agents by the ROSENBERG espionage ring, and whether or not it would appear logical that DAVID GREENGLASS, in view of his lack of scientific training and background, would be able to provide sufficiently accurate information relative to the atomic weapon to be of actual detriment to the security of the United States. The informant advised that he did not furnish Dr. BETHE any type of advice on this matter, but that he did observe the reply that BETHE personally wrote and sent to this attorney in letter form. Informant stated that in this letter BETHE advised the attorney that in his opinion the information purportedly furnished Russian espionage agents was quite definitely restricted data of considerable importance in the field of atomic weapons and was certainly to the detriment of security of the United States. He furthermore told the attorney that in his opinion GREENGLASS was capable of relaying such information in sufficient detail to be of great value to a possible enemy nation. The informant stated that BETHE definitely did not furnish

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AQ 116-19480

any aid or comfort whatsoever to the defense of the ROSENBERGS, or even indicate any possible sympathy for such cause, and that the information or opinion offered by him was not utilized during such trial. To the best of the knowledge of informant, this is the only connection that BETHE ever had with the ROSENBERG espionage case or trial.

Informant requested that his identity not be revealed in connection with this matter due to the confidential nature of his relationship with Dr. BETHE in regard to it.

The files of the AEC Security Branch at Los Alamos reflect that information relative to the following aforementioned associates of HANS BETHE has been previously furnished to the AEC:

[REDACTED]	1 -913	
[REDACTED]		13511 - WA
[REDACTED]	SC - 405	
[REDACTED]	- 11288 - WA-SF	
[REDACTED]	- 4208 - SF-CH-CA	
[REDACTED]	3 - 12818	

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AQ 62-228 & AQ 116-19480

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

INFORMANTS

Albuquerque Confidential Informant [redacted] is [redacted]  
[redacted] who furnished  
information to SA [redacted] at Los Alamos, New Mexico, on Decem-  
ber 10, 1953, and requested that his identity not be revealed in con-  
nection with the information attributed to him under instant symbol.

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## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (116-2241)

FROM : SAC, Albany (116-196)

SUBJECT: HANS ALBRECHT BETHE - NY-SF-3199  
AEAE  
BUDED 9-25-53

DATE: 8-26-53

Rebulet 7-27-53 requesting reinvestigation of employee, who is a member of the Cornell University faculty, Ithaca, New York. A review of material pertaining to employee as contained in the files of the Albany Office indicates the following investigation should be conducted:

## NEW YORK OFFICE

EMPLOYMENT: Columbia University, first semester of 1948-49 school year, while on sabbatical leave from Cornell. Consultant on theoretical physics for Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, New York (believed to be current).

CREDIT AND CRIMINAL: Employee's [redacted] His mother, Mrs. ANNE BETHE, was last known to reside at Cryder's Point, Beechhurst, New York.

NOTE: Employee's residence while at Columbia is not known.

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## ALBUQUERQUE OFFICE

EMPLOYMENT: Full-time employment with AEC at Los Alamos from February to September, 1952.

NEIGHBORHOOD: Employee resided at 1016 49th Street, Los Alamos, during employment.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 05-19-2006 BY 60322/AUC/LP/CPB/PVR

Appropriate checks on employee and wife.

EMPLOYMENT: Physics Department, University of Washington, summer of 1950.

NEIGHBORHOOD: Employee resided at 4723 East 36th Street, Seattle, Washington, during the above employment.

CREDIT AND CRIMINAL: Appropriate checks on employee and wife.

UACB the Albany Office will not include in its report the material previously reported under caption of "HANS ALBRECHT BETHE - ESPIONAGE - R" (Bufile 65-60393), since it is believed that all reports in this investigation have already been furnished the AEC. Albany will conduct appropriate neighborhood investigation at Ithaca and Schenectady, including credit and criminal checks, and will bring investigation of employment at Cornell University and General Electric, Schenectady, New York, up to date.

PFM:ATN

cc: Albuquerque (AMSD)  
New York (AMSD) ✓  
Seattle (AMSD) ✓  
Washington Field (AMSD)(Info.)

30 AUG 27 1953  
[Signature]

AIR-TEL  
~~XXXXXXXX~~

FBI

ALBANY

8-26-53

SAC, ALBUQUERQUE

HANS ALBRECHT BETHE. AFAE. FOR ADDED INFO, INVESTIGATION AT ITHACA,  
NY, REFLECTS THAT EMPLOYEE HAS BEEN EMPLOYED BY AEC AT LOS ALAMOS  
DURING INSTANT SUMMER.



END

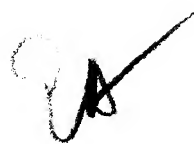
PFM:ATN

116-196

cc: Bureau

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 04-06-2006 BY 60322/AUC/LP/CPB/PVR

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A handwritten signature or initials, possibly "JH", located at the bottom left of the page.A handwritten signature or initials, possibly "JA", located at the bottom right of the page.

AIR-TEL  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
NEW YORK, 9/11/53  
-----

Transmit the following Teletype message to: BUREAU

HANS ALBRECHT BETHE-NY-SF-3199; AEAE. REFERENCE IS MADE TO LAST  
PARAGRAPH OF ALBANY LETTER TO DIRECTOR, 8/26/53. UACB THE NYO  
WILL NOT INCLUDE IN ITS REPORT THE MATERIAL PREVIOUSLY  
REPORTED UNDER CAPTION OF "HANS ALBRECHT BETHE-ESP-R" (BUFILE  
65-60393).

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 05-19-2006 BY 60322/AUC/LP/CPB/PVR

3 - BUREAU (116-2241) (REGUDAR MAIL)

*ea*  
JJD:MEM (#11)  
116-500

31 SEP 11 1953

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Approved: *L.V. Brown*  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent        M Per

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

BUREAU

REPORT MADE AT <b>ALBANY, NEW YORK</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>9/22/53</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>8/24, 25; 9/3, 9, 10, 17/53</b>	REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 20px; display: inline-block;"></div> <span style="float: right;">atn b6 b2 b7C b7D</span>
TITLE  <b>HANS ALBRECHT BETHE - NY-SF-3199</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE  <b>AEA E</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Reference: Bureau letter to Albany dated 7/27/53  
Albany letter to Bureau 8/26/53

**Details:**

**AT ITHACA, NEW YORK:**

**EMPLOYMENT**

Cornell University, advised that employee continues as a member of the University faculty as  of Physics.  stated that employee is both highly respected and highly regarded by the Administration, and that he has never heard of him being connected with communism or subversive activity in any way.

Confidential Informant  of known reliability, advised that employee is so highly thought of by the University by reason of his ability and general character that he is the highest paid member of the Cornell University faculty. Employee has been granted this high salary in order to keep him at Cornell.

Professor WILLIAM H. FARNHAM, Dean of the University Faculty, advised that he is personally acquainted with the employee and he has never heard anything of a remotely derogatory nature concerning him. Professor FARNHAM stated he would willingly recommend employee for confidential government assignments.

advised he has no record of

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:  <div style="text-align: center;"><b>DKB</b> <i>[Signature]</i></div>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE  <div style="text-align: center;">DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES</div>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau (116-2241) (AM) 1 - Albany (116-196)	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">31 SEP 24 1953</div> </div>
<p>ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED</p> <p>DATE 04-06-2006 BY 60322/AUC/LP/CPB/PVR</p>	

AL 116-196

any possible subversion on employee, and, although he does not know him personally, he understands that he is one of the highest regarded members of the Cornell faculty.

[redacted] Laboratory of Nuclear Studies, advised he is very well acquainted with employee, both socially and professionally, and that he would unhesitatingly recommend him for confidential work with the government, as employee has done in the past, because of his exemplary character, ability, and loyalty. [redacted] advised that employee has been working with the Atomic Energy Commission at Los Alamos during the past summer.

[redacted] of Physics, and [redacted] advised that he considers employee to be absolutely loyal to this government, and that he knows him to be of outstanding character and ability. [redacted] added that he believed employee's past association with the Atomic Energy Commission should speak for itself with reference to his loyalty and trust.

It should be here noted that Confidential Informant [redacted] another government agency, has advised that employee was provided with a special office on the Cornell campus during the past school year by the Atomic Energy Commission, in order to conduct highly classified research.

NEIGHBORHOOD

A Personnel Security Questionnaire previously executed by the employee and records of the Credit Bureau of Ithaca reflect the following Ithaca residence addresses:

1935-1939 101 Highgate Road  
1940-1941 104 Northway Road  
1941-1942 20 Remington Road  
1946-date 209 White Park Road.

It will be noted that all of these addresses are in the Cayuga Heights section of Ithaca, and are located within a few blocks of each other.

[redacted] advised that employee and his family have resided as neighbors to her for the past several years, and she considers them fine upstanding Americans. [redacted] stated that the BETHES keep to themselves very much, that they are quiet and unassuming, and she knows of nothing of a derogatory nature concerning them.

[redacted] is [redacted] advised they know employee and his family as social acquaintances and neighbors and that they consider them fine people of unquestioned loyalty. Both recommended employee for work with the government.



AL 116-196

[redacted] an employee of the Grange League Federation, advised that he is personally, though not closely, acquainted with the employee. [redacted] advised that he knows nothing of a derogatory nature concerning him.

Investigation and inquiries in the vicinity of 20 Remington Road reflected that this is a small lane and that number 20 was the only residence on the road during the early 1940's. There were no persons available to contact concerning employee's occupancy of this residence.

[redacted]  
[redacted] Cornell University, advised that employee and his family resided as [redacted] from approximately 1940 to 1941. [redacted] stated employee was very quiet and that he kept somewhat aloof from his neighbors, but that he was well regarded and there was never any reason to doubt his loyalty.

[redacted] advised that she recalled employee and his family as neighbors and there was never any reason to doubt their loyalty by any words or actions. [redacted] stated employee was of good character and the type of person who commands considerable respect. b2 b6 b7C

[redacted] advised employee occupied an apartment at this address in the late 1930's. She stated she considered him an upstanding citizen and that she would recommend him with reference to his character and loyalty. b7C

#### MISCELLANEOUS

Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability, a former member of the Communist Party in Ithaca, New York, advised that employee is unknown to him.

#### CREDIT AND CRIMINAL

Employee and his wife have a satisfactory credit reputation with the Credit Bureau of Ithaca.

Neither employee nor his wife have any record with the Ithaca Police Department or the Tompkins County Sheriff's Office.

The following investigation was conducted by SA [redacted]

AT SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK:

#### EMPLOYMENT

The following records at General Electric Company were checked with,

AL 116-196

negative results:

[redacted], Records Office  
[redacted] General Apparatus and Sales Division Payroll  
[redacted] General Services Division Payroll

[redacted] General Services, advised that the only record of the employee in their files is a record reflecting that he was hired by the General Electric Company as a consultant in January, 1946.

[redacted] Payroll Section, Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory, General Electric Company, advised that their records reflect no other statistics other than the fact that the employee was hired as a consultant in 1946 and has been employed as a consultant to date.

[redacted] Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory, advised that he has known the employee on a professional basis since 1946, and commented favorably with regard to his character, loyalty, and associates.

[redacted] of the Physics Department, Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory, advised that he has known the employee on both a social and professional basis for the past four years and stated the employee is completely reliable and trustworthy, of good character, and to the best of his knowledge, a loyal American.

[redacted] Technical General Section, Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory, advised that he has known the employee on a limited professional basis for the past four years and commented favorably on his character, loyalty, and associates.

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#### NEIGHBORHOOD

[redacted] advised that they rented their home to [redacted] during the summer of 1946, and that she had been informed that during this time the employee resided with [redacted] for a period of approximately two weeks. [redacted] advised that the employee is not known to her and that she knows of no one in the neighborhood who would know the employee.

#### CREDIT AND CRIMINAL

The following investigation was conducted by SA [redacted]

[redacted] Schenectady Credit Bureau, advised that their files contain no record for the employee.

[redacted] Schenectady Police Department [redacted]  
[redacted] Schenectady County Sheriff's Office, and Chief JOHN T. MC GOVERN, Niskayuna Police Department, all advised they have no record of employee.

AL 116-196

ADMINISTRATIVE

INFORMANTS

[ ] is [ ] Cornell University,  
who requested that his identity be kept confidential with  
respect to this information.

[ ] is [ ]  
Atomic Energy Commission, Los Alamos, New Mexico.

[ ] is [ ] confidential source at Ithaca, New York.

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

BUREAU

FILE NO.

REPORT MADE AT <b>SEATTLE, WASHINGTON</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>25</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>9/10, 18, 21, 24/53</b>	REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 20px; margin: 5px;"></div> emp
TITLE <b>HANS ALBRECHT BETHE</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>ATOMIC ENERGY ACT - <del>DEFENDANT</del></b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

**REFERENCE:** Albany letter to Bureau, dated 8/26/53.

**DETAILS:**

Investigation conducted in this case in the State of Washington was by the reporting agent with the exception of credit and criminal checks by SE

AT SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

EMPLOYMENT

University of Washington  
(7/5/50 - 8/3/50)

Payroll, advised that the applicant was employed as captioned in the Department of Physics as a Walker-Ames Endowment, visiting summer professor. His birth was recorded as 1906; his home address as Cornell University, Ithaca, New York and his local address as 4723 E. 36th, Seattle, Washington.

The Department of Academic Personnel records reflected that the applicant was born 1906, Strasbourg, Germany; that he was employed at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, since 1935 and prior to that time in England and Germany. The records also reflected that the applicant signed the required University of Washington loyalty pledge on 3/25/50 and notarized by

NP # 55-7266800, Ithaca, New York. His personnel file contained only

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;">                       P.D. 4                 </div>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;">                       11-2-11-18                 </div>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT Bureau (AM) (116-2241) 1 Seattle (116-47354)		ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 04-06-2006 BY 60322/AUC/LP/CPB/PVR

Favorable information.

[redacted] Department of Physics, advised that he was not acquainted with the applicant during his captioned employment but knew of him at the Los Alamos AEC project from 1943 to 1946. He described the applicant as one of the foremost scientists in the country, if not the world, and one of the chief contributors to the development of the "A-bomb". He said he had never heard anything unfavorable or had any reason to question the applicant's loyalty, character, reputation or associations in any respect.

[redacted] said that the only person presently available who might recall the applicant would be [redacted] Department of Physics, who was [redacted] of the Department of Physics during the captioned period.

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[redacted]  
Department of Physics, advised that the applicant was employed as a Walker-Ames professor during the summer 1950 to give a series of lectures on nuclear physics. He stated that the applicant and his family were able to secure the home of the daughter of a faculty member who was out of town for the summer, 1950, and that this residence was just around the corner from [redacted]

[redacted] said that he had no reason to question the loyalty, character, reputation, associations or integrity of the applicant or his family. He could recommend no one else available who might recall the applicant.

#### RESIDENCE

4723 E. 36th  
(Summer, 1950)

[redacted] advised that the applicant resided at captioned address during captioned, with his family, while he was giving a series of lectures at the University of Washington. She stated that the captioned address was owned by [redacted] who rented the captioned to the applicant for the summer 1950 while [redacted] and her husband were in Alaska. [redacted] said she was not acquainted with the applicant and his family but had no reason to question their loyalty, character, reputation or associations in any respect.

[redacted] captioned address, advised that she rented her home to the applicant and his family, consisting of a wife and two children, during the summer, 1950, at the request of the University of Washington. She stated that she did not have the opportunity to meet the applicant or his family; however, she had heard nothing unfavorable concerning them in any respect. She could recommend no one in the neighborhood who might have been acquainted with them in view of the fact that there was some question as to the applicant's national origin and the neighborhood is a highly restricted and class conscientious residential area.

SA 316-17354

CREDIT

The Seattle Credit Bureau records contained no information regarding the applicant or his family.

CRIMINAL

The King County Sheriff's Office and Seattle Police Department records contained no record identifiable with the applicant or his family.

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

BUREAU

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<b>REPORT MADE AT</b>  NEW YORK	<b>DATE WHEN MADE</b>  9/1,3,4,9,10,11, 14-18,21-23/53	<b>PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE</b>  9/1,3,4,9,10,11, 14-18,21-23/53	<b>REPORT MADE BY</b>  <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>
<b>TITLE</b>  HANS ALBRECHT BETHE NY -SF- 3199			<b>CHARACTER OF CASE</b>  ATOMIC ENERGY ACT- EMPLOYEE

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**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS**

**REFERENCE:** Albany letter to Director, 8/26/53.

**DETAILS:**

**EMPLOYMENT**

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 05-19-2006 BY 60322/AUC/LP/CPB/PVR

Columbia University  
116th Street and Broadway  
New York City

Secretary's Office, advised that HANS ALBRECHT BETHE was a professor of physics at Columbia University and started to teach in the Physics Department from July 1, 1948 to January 31, 1949.  further stated that BETHE taught physics and held a seat in the Faculty of Pure Science from February 1, 1941 to May 30, 1941.

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Personnel Office, advised that the records of this office reflect that HANS ALBRECHT BETHE, born July 2, 1906, Strasburg, (Alsace) Germany, stayed two terms in the Physics Department of Columbia University in September, 1948. Instant records do not reflect termination of his employment. The records further reflect that BETHE attended the University of Munich during 1926-28 and was employed at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York from February 1, 1935 to date (August 5, 1948).

<b>APPROVED AND FORWARDED:</b>  <div style="text-align: center;">   <b>LVB</b> </div>	<b>SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE</b>	<b>DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES</b>  <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;"> </div>
<b>COPIES OF THIS REPORT</b> 5- Bureau (116-2241) 1- New York (116-500)		<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100%; height: 100px;"></div>

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NY 116-500

BETHE'S residence was reflected as Butler Hall, Columbia University.

[redacted] Physics Department, Columbia University, furnished the names of the following professors as individuals who had been employed at Columbia University in 1948 and who might recall BETHE:

[redacted]  
[redacted] of Physics at Columbia University and [redacted] of Columbia University's AEC Contract Gen 72, advised that he has known HANS ALBRECHT BETHE since about 1944-45. He stated that the employee is considered one of the outstanding men in his field and, as far as he knows, enjoys an excellent reputation. [redacted] stated that he and the employee had been joint members of the staff at Columbia University and as such, had many discussions regarding their work. [redacted] advised that he considers BETHE to be a level-headed individual and that he has never seen nor heard anything that might give him any reason to doubt BETHE'S loyalty to the United States.

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[redacted] pointed out that he has never had any discussions with the employee regarding politics or the like, that he has only met BETHE a few times socially, and that their relationship is primarily on a professional basis.

[redacted] concluded by stating he would highly recommend the employee for a position of trust.

[redacted] to the President of Columbia University, and former head of the Physics Department and Graduate School at Columbia University, advised that he has known



NY 116-500

HANS ALBRECHT BETHE for approximately twelve to fifteen years. [ ]  
[ ] stated that the employee is considered one of the top theoretical physicists in the country, and at one time was in charge of the theoretical Physics Department at Los Alamos. He further advised that he has never worked with the employee, but that he has had many discussions with him regarding the field of physics.

He advised that during his association with BETHE he has always considered him a person of good character, reputation and loyalty and would, without hesitation, recommend the employee for a position of trust.

It is to be noted that [ ] advised that he was desirous and in fact, had made an attempt to get the employee to join the faculty of Columbia University because of his outstanding work in the field of theoretical physics.

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[ ] Columbia University, advised that he had been acquainted with HANS ALBRECHT BETHE since about 1941 when he was a Graduate Student in the employee's class at Columbia University. He stated that in 1948, when BETHE was a visiting professor of physics at Columbia University, he was an Associate Professor of Physics in the same department. He stated that he has never met the employee socially, but their relationship is confined to a professional basis. [ ] stated that BETHE is one of the outstanding theoretical physicists in the country and a top man in Atomic research. [ ] stated that during his association with the employee he has never seen nor heard of anything that might give him reason to doubt the employee's character, reputation, loyalty, or associates. [ ] highly recommended the employee for a position of trust.

NY 116-500

EMPLOYMENT

Brookhaven National Laboratory  
Upton, New York

The following investigation was conducted by SA [redacted]

[redacted] furnished the employee's personnel file which reflected that the employee was hired as a consultant from April 3, 1946 to present on a contract basis, his last contract dated January 1, 1953 to December 31, 1953. [redacted] stated that the employee, in the capacity of a consultant, is not a full-time employee. His present address is reflected as 209 White Park Road, Ithaca, New York, and he is employed by Cornell University.

[redacted] AEC, Brookhaven area, advised that the employee has a "Q1" clearance, which means that any change of his employment must be approved by the AEC.

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[redacted] Physics Department, advised that he has known HANS ALBRECHT BETHE since about 1938. At that time [redacted] was a student at Cornell and the employee was on the staff and [redacted] studies for several years, and [redacted] became well acquainted with him. He again became associated with the employee at Los Alamos, AEC installation, where they were fellow employees for about a year or two during World War II, and again at Cornell University from approximately 1946-49, when both were working there. [redacted] further stated that he has also seen the employee since that time, both at Brookhaven and at Cornell, and has associated with him to a lesser extent. [redacted] stated that most of his association with the employee has been on a professional and casual friendly basis, such as lunching together and attending social functions relating to their work. He said that the employee is broad-minded; certainly believes that the employee is loyal to the United States Government, and he

NY 116-500

further stated that he believes that the employee's political convictions are not a strong part of his life; that he is more concerned with his scientific profession and that from their past discussions on subjects of a political matter, he believes the employee has no tendencies toward Communism. [redacted] advised that he knew no associates of the employee's about whom any question of loyalty had arisen. [redacted] concluded by stating that the employee only comes to Brookhaven about twice a year for lectures and research, and as far as he knew, stayed in the Guest House, at these times.

[redacted] Physics Department, advised that she was casually acquainted with the employee and stated that she knew nothing unfavorable concerning the employee's character, reputation, loyalty or associates.

[redacted] Physics Department, advised that he has been casually acquainted with the employee for the past six years. He advised that the employee is a General Consultant of the Department and gives lectures at Brookhaven several times a year and consults with scientists in whose work he has a professional interest at the time. He stated that the employee is a member of the "Visiting Committee", a group of designated experts in their field who inspect matters in the Physics Department and report to the Board of Trustees of Associated Universities, Incorporated, the parent organization of Brookhaven National Laboratory, Inc.

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[redacted] advised that the employee only visits Brookhaven for a day or several days at a time and that on such occasions he resides at the Guest House on the premises. He further advised that he is not socially acquainted with the employee but that he does know that the employee is a leading authority in the field of theoretical physics and that he has a good reputation. [redacted] concluded by stating that he has no reason to question the employee's loyalty or associates, and to the best of his knowledge the employee is of good character.

[redacted] Electronics Department, advised that he has known the employee both on a social and professional

NY 116-500

basis since 1937. He advised that he had never known the employee to have indicated any sympathies for any totalitarian group and felt certain that the employee has no sympathies for Russia or Communism. He knows of no reason to question the employee's loyalty nor any of his associates.

[redacted] stated that he would recommend the employee for a position of trust.

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[redacted] Electronics Department, advised that he has known the employee since the time the employee entered the United States from his native Germany, around 1935. He stated that both he and the employee were members of the faculty of Cornell University and since that time has seen the employee occasionally on a professional basis as well as at social gatherings of members of the profession. [redacted] stated that during the period that they both were at Cornell, the employee was not married and that he saw him regularly at dinners on the campus. [redacted] stated that he had many discussions with the employee and that the employee often worried over the rise of and the threat posed by [redacted] and expressed himself, against the Nazis. He stated that the employee's father remained in Germany and turned Nazi and that his mother left his father and came to the United States some time around 1939. [redacted] stated that to the best of his knowledge the employee is opposed to Communism and would be loyal to the United States. He further added that he knew of no associates of BETHE that were questionable from a loyalty standpoint and that in his opinion both the employee and his wife and mother were of good character and reputation.

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[redacted] Physics Department, advised that he has known HANS ALBRECHT BETHE for about twenty-seven years. He said that before the war he had been well acquainted with BETHE at the University of Michigan during the summer and at the beginning of World War II they were fellow employees at MIT Radiation Laboratory. [redacted] advised that he knew of no friends or associates of the employee whose reputation or loyalty had been held in question by any source. He stated that, from his association with the employee he had formed the opinion that the employee is sympathetic to the American form of government and he has no reason to question his loyalty.

NY 116-500

[redacted] Physics Department, advised that he met the employee in about 1935 at meetings of the American Physical Society, a professional group of which he and BETHE were members. Since then, he stated, they have been professionally acquainted and also socially in connection with their professional functions. He advised that they have had many detailed talks and conferences both here and at Cornell University over the years. [redacted] advised that he feels that BETHE is completely loyal to the United States and he had no reason to question his associates.

[redacted] concluded by stating that he regards the employee as a person of good character, reputation and associates.

[redacted] Chemistry Department, advised that he has known the employee since about 1943. He stated that since then he has seen him from time to time professionally and from this limited association would recommend him as to character, reputation, loyalty and associates.

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NEIGHBORHOOD

Butler Hall  
400 West 119th Street  
New York City

[redacted] of instant apartment-hotel since the beginning of 1948, advised that a review of the records fail to reflect any information regarding the employee ever having resided at this hall. [redacted] stated that it is possible that the employee might have sub-leased an apartment, and if so, his office would not have a record. He also advised that this house is owned by Columbia University and it gives priority to faculty members, as a result, there are numerous members of the Columbia University faculty who have resided at this hall. [redacted] stated that it is quite possible that the employee

NY 116-500

might have stayed with some of these faculty members, and if so, his records would not indicate this.

[ ] stated that he, himself does not recall the employee and was unable to furnish the names of any individuals who might recall the employee.

MISCELLANEOUS

Reliable Confidential Informants, who are familiar with some of the Communist' activities in the New York area, advised that they are unable to furnish any information regarding the employee.

A review of the files of the Bureau of Special Services and Investigation, New York City Police Department, by SA [ ] fails to reflect any information regarding the employee.

CREDIT

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The files of the Credit Bureau of Greater New York, as checked by SE [ ] fails to reflect any information regarding the employee. These files reflect that [ ] whose husband is a professor of physics at Columbia University, has a satisfactory credit rating.

CRIMINAL

The files of the New York City Police Department as reviewed by SA [ ] fail to reflect any information regarding the employee or his family.

The files of the Brookhaven Town Police Department, Patchogue, Long Island, New York, as checked by SA [ ] contained no record of the employee.

- RUC -

NY 116-500

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

INFORMANTS

The following are the Confidential Informants referred  
to in this report:

<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 90px; height: 190px; display: inline-block; vertical-align: top;"></div>	contacted by SA	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 220px; height: 40px; display: inline-block;"></div>	on	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 80px; height: 40px; display: inline-block;"></div>
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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT BUREAU

REPORT MADE AT <b>WASHINGTON, D.C.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>10-20-53</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>9/1, 21, 30; 10/14/53</b>	REPORT MADE BY [Redacted] <b>SW;jlf</b>
TITLE <b>HANS ALBRECHT BETHE - NY - SF - 3199</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>AEA - E</b>

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**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

**REFERENCE:** Bureau letter to Albany dated July 27, 1953.

**DETAILS:** AT WASHINGTON, D.C.

The files of the House Committee on Un-American Activities, which were checked by SA [Redacted] were found to contain no additional pertinent information concerning the employee.

The files of the [Redacted] contain no pertinent identifiable security information concerning the employee's wife.

- RUC -

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DATE 05-19-2006 BY 60322/AUC/LP/CPB/PVR

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [Signature]	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
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		[Handwritten signature]	



SAC, Albuquerque (116-19480)

12/11/53

SAC, El Paso (116-239)

HANS ALBRECHT BETHE - NY - SF - 3199  
ALM

Re Albuquerque letter to El Paso, dated 12/3/53.

EP file 116-239, captioned as above was forwarded to your Office on 2/21/50. The only reference to [redacted] appears in instant file. b6 b7C

EP file 100-4642, captioned, Educational Foundation for Nuclear Science, Inc. Bulletin on the Atomic Scientists, was forwarded to your office on 2/21/50.

EP file 100-4160, captioned Federation of American Scientists, was forwarded to your office on 12/27/49.

RUC.

EFE:ELC  
CC Bureau

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DATE 04-06-2006 BY 60322/AUC/LP/CPB/PVR

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, SAN FRANCISCO *X*

FROM : SAC, ALBUQUERQUE (116-19480)

SUBJECT: HANS ALBRECHT BETHE-NY-WF-3199  
AEA E (Reinvestigation)  
Buded 9/25/53

DATE: 12/15/53

ReBulet to Albany dated 8/26/53.

Employee born 7/2/06 at Strasbourg, Germany. BETHE, one of the foremost physicists in the world, is regularly employed as a professor at Cornell University, however he was employed as a top level scientist at Los Alamos, New Mexico 1943-46 and has been retained as a consultant to University of California at Los Alamos since that time. In such position he has had a considerable amount of contact with [redacted] presently at the Livermore, California laboratory, and it is believed that they may have known each other in Europe prior to the time they came to the United States.

As a matter of information, BETHE reportedly is a rather close associate and follower of [redacted] and purportedly voiced some opposition to development of the H-Bomb prior the Presidential announcement in 1950, whereas [redacted] purportedly strongly supported such development. However, since that time BETHE has ostensibly worked very diligently on the research for such development. If deemed appropriate, [redacted] should be queried as to the opinions of BETHE on this matter. He also may be able to furnish some information relative to the association of BETHE with [redacted] a fellow member of the Department of Staff at Cornell University and an admitted former member of CP.

Your office is requested to interview [redacted] as outlined above. Albuquerque Office will report that information re [redacted] has been previously furnished to AEC.

RIM:rk  
AIR MAIL

cc: 1 - Bureau (116-2241) (AM)

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DATE 05-19-2006 BY 60322/AUC/LP/CPB/PVR

DEC 15 1953  
ALBUQUERQUE  
B I

FBI, SAN FRANCISCO (116-43207)

12/21/53

DEFERRED

SAC, LOS ANGELES

HANS ALBRECHT BETH DASH NY DASH SF DASH THREE ONE NINE NINE. AEAE.

(REINVESTIGATION). BUDED SEPT TWENTYFIVE LAST. RE ALBUQUERQUE LETTER TO

SF DATED DEC FIFTEEN LAST. BETHE ONE OF FOREMOST PHYSICISTS REGULARLY

EMPLOYED CORNELL UNIVERSITY, FORMALLY EMPLOYED UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA,

LOS ALAMOS, FORTYTHREE TO FORTYSIX AND RETAINED AS CONSULTANT TO DATE.

HAS CONSIDERABLE CONTACT WITH [REDACTED] POSSIBLE THEY KNEW EACH

OTHER PRIOR TO ENTERING U.S. BETHE CLOSE ASSOCIATE OF [REDACTED]

AND PURPORTEDLY VOICED OPPOSITION TO DEVELOPMENT OF H BOMB PRIOR TO PRESIDENTIAL

ANNOUNCEMENT IN NINETEEN FIFTY WHERE AS TELIAH SUPPORTED SUCH DEVELOPMENT.

INTERVIEW [REDACTED] IS TO OPINIONS OF BETHE ON THIS MATTER AND ASSOCIATION OF

BETHE WITH [REDACTED], A FELLOW MEMBER OF CORNELL UNIVERSITY FACULTY AND

ADMITTED FORMER MEMBER OF CP. INVESTIGATION LABLAB, LIVERMORE, CALIF.

REFLECTS [REDACTED] LOCATED AT ONE PALM HOTEL OR MOTEL, PALM SPRINGS, CALIF

UNTIL DEC TWENTYSEVEN INSTANT. RUC.

JEM:DAM/MDG

CC: BUREAU (116-2241)(AM)

SF 116-43207

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DATE 05-19-2006 BY 60322/AUC/LP/CPB/PVR

NOT RECORDED

21 DEC 23 1953

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **BUREAU**

REPORT MADE AT <b>ALBUQUERQUE</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>1/12/54</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>12/6,7,8/53</b>	REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div> <b>cm</b>
TITLE <b>HANS ALBRECHT BETHE -NY-SF- 3199</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>AEA E</b>

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**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT

REFERENCE: Bureau letter to Albany dated July 27, 1953.  
Report of SA   dated April 14, 1947, at El Paso.

DETAILS

MISCELLANEOUS

At Albuquerque, New Mexico:

Confidential informants, of known reliability, who are more or less familiar with Communist activities in New Mexico have advised that HANS ALBRECHT BETHE is unknown to them and that they have not heard his name mentioned in Communist Party circles.

- RUC -

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DATE 05-19-2006 BY 60322/AUC/LP/CPB/PVR

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AQ #116-19480

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

Security Informants contacted are as follows:

<div data-bbox="165 502 316 629"></div>	contacted by SA	<div data-bbox="560 523 1198 625"></div>
	contacted by SA	
	contacted by SA	

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January 22, 1954

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

BY COURIER SERVICE

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 09-29-2006 BY 60322/UC/LP/DCG/DK

Honorable [redacted]  
[redacted]

Atomic Energy Commission  
19th and Constitution Avenue, Northwest  
Washington, D. C.

Dear [redacted]

By letter dated December 8, 1953,  
Mr. George J. Gould, Director, Security Division,  
Department of Defense, requested an investigation  
of Dr. Hans Albrecht Bethe, who is being considered  
for an important assignment in the Office of the  
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Research and  
Development).

At the request of the Atomic Energy  
Commission, an applicant-type investigation was  
conducted of Dr. Bethe and reports furnished to Referral/Direct  
the Atomic Energy Commission on May 1, 1947.  
The Atomic Energy Commission has requested that  
the investigation of Dr. Bethe be brought up to  
date under the reinvestigation program. Attached  
for your information is a copy of the summary of  
the investigation conducted of Dr. Bethe at the  
request of the Office of the Secretary of Defense.  
No further investigation is being conducted of  
Dr. Bethe in the absence of a specific request  
from the Atomic Energy Commission.

It is noted that information is con-  
tained in the attached summary concerning the  
association of Dr. Bethe with [redacted]  
[redacted]

FMP:mk

CC: 116-2241

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Referral/Direct

This investigation covered inquiries as to the character, loyalty, general standing and ability of Dr. Bethe, but no inquiry has been made as to the sources of his income.

Sincerely yours,

\* Atomic Energy Commission  
Attachment

41487

February 4, 1954

~~PERSONAL AND  
CONFIDENTIAL~~

Honorable [redacted]

BY COURIER SERVICE

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Atomic Energy Commission  
19th and Constitution Avenue, N. W.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Admiral:

By letter dated January 22, 1954, a summary reflecting the results of an investigation of Dr. Hans Albrecht Bethe was furnished to you. As stated in that letter, this summary did not include a record check of several other Government agencies.

The records of the Office of Naval Intelligence contained no additional information regarding Dr. Bethe. The records of the Security Division, New York Operations Office of the Atomic Energy Commission, New York City, reflected that Dr. Bethe was granted a security clearance on May 1, 1947. This clearance was reaffirmed on January 20, 1950, and July 21, 1953.

Information contained in the above records indicated that Dr. Bethe was probably employed by the Union Carbide and Carbon Corporation at Oak Ridge, Tennessee, as a consultant to the Research Directors Division. Inquiry has determined that Dr. Bethe has a subcontract as a consultant with this company which was entered into on October 1, 1951, and will expire September 30, 1954. Dr. Bethe has visited Oak Ridge on official business on two occasions for periods of two days during the period of the contract. This concludes the investigation of Dr. Bethe.

Sincerely yours,

*STK*

(13)

FME:ab

175C-116-2241

116-2241-216

*File 116-2241*  
*6/18*

63 MAR 8 1954



COVER LETTER FOR BLOCKED MAIL TOO LARGE FOR FILE

RECORDED

THIS SERIAL IS TOO LARGE FOR FILE AND WILL BE CARRIED AS A ~~REDACTED~~ SERIAL  
BEHIND THE FILE

THIS SERIAL THE (Date)

*Thursday, Nov. 8, 1936*

ISSUE OF THE (Name of the pamphlet)

*United States Atomic  
Energy Commission*

SUBJECT

*DR. HANS ALBRECHT O. BORN*

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FILE NUMBER

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DATE 05-19-2006 BY 60322/auc/lp/cpb/pvr

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161-4010-1

JUL 20 1965

Bc / 204

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INVESTIGATIVE SUPPORT INFORMATION SYSTEM (ISIS)

SIX WAY SEARCH

FOR UNIT : DAPLI AS OF JUNE 29 1987

PAGE NO: 19

ANALYST :

APPLICANT NAME : BETHE\*HANS ALBRECHT

NAME SEARCH :

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NAME FOUND

DATA BASE

FILE NO.

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INVESTIGATIVE SUPPORT INFORMATION SYSTEM (ISIS)

SIX WAY SEARCH

FOR UNIT : DAPLT AS OF JUNE 29 1987

PAGE NO: 20

ANALYST

APPLICANT NAME : BETHE\*HANS ALBRECHT

NAME SEARCH :

NAME FOUND

DATA BASE

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INVESTIGATIVE SUPPORT INFORMATION SYSTEM (ISIS)

SIX WAY SEARCH

FOR UNIT : DART AS OF JUNE 90 1987

PAGE NO: 21

ANALYST

APPLICANT NAME : BETHE\*HANS ALBRECHT

NAME SEARCH :

NAME FOUND

DATA BASE

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INVESTIGATIVE SUPPORT INFORMATION SYSTEM (ISIS)

SIX WAY SEARCH

FOR UNIT : DAPLI AS OF JUNE 29 1987

PAGE NO: 22

ANALYST :

APPLICANT NAME : BETHE\*HANS ALBRECHT

NAME SEARCH :

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INVESTIGATIVE SUPPORT INFORMATION SYSTEM (ISIS)

SIX WAY SEARCH

FOR UNIT : DAPLI AS OF JUNE 29 1987

PAGE NO: 23

ANALYST

APPLICANT NAME : BETHE\*HANS ALBRECHT

NAME SEARCH :

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INVESTIGATIVE SUPPORT INFORMATION SYSTEM (ISIS)

SIX WAY SEARCH

FOR UNIT : DAPI-1 AS OF JUNE 29, 1987

PAGE NO: 24

ANALYST

APPLICANT NAME : BETHE\*HANS ALBRECHT

NAME SEARCH

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DATA BASE

FILE NO.

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**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**  
**Records/Operations Sections**

, 19

- ☐ Name Searching Unit, 4989, TL# 121  
☐ Service Unit, 4654, TL# 225  
☐ Special File Room, 5991, TL# 122  
☐ Forward to File Review, 5447, TL# 143  
☐ Attention \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Return to \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor, Room, TL#, Ext.

**Scope of Search:** (Check One)

- ☐ Automated Data Base (ADB)(Individual Born 1962 and After)  
☐ Restricted Search (Active Index - 5 & 20)  
☐ Restricted Search (Active & Inactive Index - 5 & 30)  
☒ Unrestricted (Active & Inactive Index)

**Type of Search Requested:** (Check One)

- ☒ All References (Security & Criminal)  
☐ Security Search  
☐ Criminal Search  
☐ Main \_\_\_\_\_ References Only

**Special Instructions:** (Check One)

- ☐ Exact Name Only (On the Nose)  
☐ Buildup ☐ Variations  
☐ Restricted to Locality of \_\_\_\_\_

Subject Betha, Florent

Birthdate &amp; Place \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Localities \_\_\_\_\_

R# \_\_\_\_\_

Date 7/1Searcher  
Initials 339

Prod. \_\_\_\_\_

FILE NUMBER SERIAL

NP 64-175-232-509LI 65-60393-15 49LI 77-60618-15A  
D  
B

ACTIVE

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DATE ON

CARD M/Y

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 04-06-2006 BY 60322/AUC/LP/CPB/PVR

(Rev. 11-13-85)

CLASSIFIED BY 60322/auc/lp/cpb/pwr

DECLASSIFY ON: 25X 3.3(1) 12-11-2031

## Records/Operations Sections

6-29, 1987

- ☒ Name Searching Unit, 4989, TL# 121  
☐ Service Unit, 4654, TL# 225  
☐ Special File Room, 5991, TL# 122  
☒ Forward to File Review 5447, TL# 143  
☒ Attention   
☒ Return to  B035

Supervisor, Room, TL#, Ext.

☐ Automated Data Base (ADB)(Individual Born 1962 and After)  
☐ Restricted Search (Active Index - 5 & 20)  
☐ Restricted Search (Active & Inactive Index - 5 & 30)  
☒ Unrestricted (Active & Inactive Index)

☒ All References (Security & Criminal)  
☐ Security Search  
☐ Criminal Search  
☐ Main \_\_\_\_\_

### References Only

☐ Exact Name Only (On the Nose)  
☐ Buildup ☒ Variations  
☐ Restricted to Locality of \_\_\_\_\_

### Birthdate & Place

### Address

## Localities

R#

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Searcher

Initials SLC

Prod.

**FILE NUMBER**

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**INACTIVE**

DATE ON \_\_\_\_\_

CARD M/Y

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44-77-60618

✓ 117-2406

101-4010

11-2-241

Hans A

1-117-2565

NP ~~146-21977-14~~

100-243044-1957

JUL 5 1957

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WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

FBI/DOJ

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NUMEROUS REFERENCE  
SEARCH SLIP

Subject Bethe, Hans  
 Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_ Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 R# 761 Date 7-6 Searcher Initials 570  
 Prod. \_\_\_\_\_

FILE NUMBER SERIAL

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D  
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ACTIVE  
INACTIVE  
DATE ON  
CARD M/Y

H. A. 97R

100-343044-1136

1261

~~100-379296-159~~

H

SI

Bet, Hans (aka)

SI

Betta, HANS (aka)

SI

Beta, Hans (aka)

SI

Bettie, Hans A.

SI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 04-06-2006 BY 60322/AUC/LP/CPB/PVR

~~Bette, Hans (aka)~~

SI

Behte, Hans A

SI

Hans (aka)

SI

Bethe, Hans Albrecht

65-59242-476 ep 1, 2A, 9, 10, 11;

NAI

65-58805-286; 8018

100-190625-2557p59

133-0-4 summary 12-11-57



## PART I - FRONT

DOE Form DP-1 (Part I)  
Rev. 8-83  
Exception to Standard Form 86  
Approved by O.M.B.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
Washington, D.C. 20545

Form Approved  
901.0017  
Expires: 6-30-86  
(Previous Editions are Obsolete)

## PERSONNEL SECURITY QUESTIONNAIRE

**INSTRUCTIONS**—DOE Form DP-1 HAS TWO PARTS. ALL SECTIONS OF BOTH PARTS MUST BE COMPLETED, UNLESS BOTH PARTS ARE COMPLETELY AND PROPERLY EXECUTED. THE FORM WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Before any entries are made, familiarize yourself with all questions. Do not sign without first reading the instructions and certification at the end of the form. TYPE ALL ANSWERS. If more space is required, enter in item 17 on the back of this form or attach additional sheets and indicate the item numbers to which the answers apply. Questions which do not apply should be marked "None."

1. NAME (Last, First, Middle) <b>Bethe, Hans Albrecht</b>		4. DESCRIPTION			
		Male or Female <b>Male</b>	Height <b>5'11"</b>	Weight <b>190 lb.</b>	Color Eyes <b>Blue</b>
				Color Hair <b>Grey</b>	
2. ALL OTHER NAMES (Include maiden name, names by former marriages, and dates that names were used) <b>None</b>		5. SOCIAL SECURITY NO. <b>088-26-3942</b>		6. BIRTH DATE <b>July 2 1906</b>	
		7. BIRTHPLACE (City, County, State, and Country) <b>Strasbourg, Germany</b>			
3. PRESENT RESIDENCE (Street and Number, City and State) <b>209 White Park Road Ithaca, NY 14850</b>		8. Put an "X" in Appropriate Box(es): Single <input type="checkbox"/> Married <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Widow(er) <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced <input type="checkbox"/> Dates and Places of marriages and if applicable, divorces <b>Sept. 14, 1939, New Rochelle, NY</b>			
9. ALL OTHER RESIDENCES FOR PAST 15 YEARS <b>None</b>		10. CITIZENSHIP: U.S. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alien <input type="checkbox"/> Dual <input type="checkbox"/> Country other than U.S. _____			
		A. If U.S. Citizen, indicate whether: (1) By Birth <input type="checkbox"/> (3) By Naturalization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (2) Derivative <input type="checkbox"/> Alien Registration No. _____ Date _____ Petition No. _____ Certification No. _____ Date <b>Feb. 10, 1941</b> Place _____ Certification No. <b>5079504</b> Place <b>Ithaca, NY</b>			
		B. If alien, indicate: (1) Alien Registration No. _____ (2) Present Citizenship _____ (3) Date of Entry _____ (4) Port of Entry _____			

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 04-06-2006 BY 60322/AUC/LP/CUC/CPB/PVR

12. EMPLOYMENT (List ALL employment dates including present employment and ALL dates and addresses when unemployed. If any employments required DOE security clearance or access authorization, indicate this fact after the name of the company or organization which requested the clearance. Give name or names under which employed if different from name now used.)

From Mo./Yr.	Date To Mo./Yr.	Name of Employer (Company or Organization)	Address (Where employed)	Type of Work	Supervisor's Name
2/35-present		Cornell University	Ithaca, NY	Professor of Physics	
4/81	6/81	NORDITA (Nordic Inst. for Theor. Atomic Physics)	Copenhagen, Denmark	Research	
1/82	3/82	California Institute of Technology	Pasadena, CA	Fairchild Scholar (research)	
1/83	2/83	Institute for Theoretical Physics, Univ. of Cal., Santa Barbara, CA	Santa Barbara, CA	Research	
1/85	3/85	California Institute of Technology	Pasadena, CA	Fairchild Scholar (research)	
1/86		Institute for Theoretical Physics, Univ. of Cal., Santa Barbara, CA	Santa Barbara, CA	Research	

13. FOREIGN COUNTRIES VISITED (Exclusive of Military Service and U.S. Government Official Travel)		Date Left USA	Date Returned USA
Country	Purpose		
Peru, Brazil	Lectures, sightseeing	7/80	7/80
Denmark	Research		
Germany, England	Visit relatives	4/81	7/81
Switzerland	Vacation		
Denmark	Research		

Denmark Germany, England Switzerland	Research Visit relatives Vacation	4/84	7/84
Germany, England Switzerland	Lecture, visit relatives Vacation	6/86	7/86

14. EDUCATION (All Schools Above Elementary)				
Name of School	Address	From	To	Degree
None				

15. RELATIVES (Parents, stepparents, foster parents, spouse, divorced spouse or spouses, children, stepchildren, brothers, sisters, stepbrothers, stepsisters, half brothers, half sisters, father-in-law, and mother-in-law, living or dead. Name of spouse should include maiden name and any other names by previous marriage. If spouse is an alien, a naturalized U.S. citizen, or if you marry subsequent to the execution of this questionnaire, it will be necessary that data concerning your spouse be furnished on DOE Form DP-354.)

Relation	Name in Full	Date of Birth	Address	Country of Birth	Present Citizenship
Father	Albrecht Bethe	1872	Deceased	Germany	German
Mother	Anna Kuhn Bethe	1876	Deceased	Germany	German
Stepmother	Vera Congehl Bethe	1897	Deceased	Germany	German
Wife				Germany	USA
Son				A	USA
Daughter				USA	USA
Half-brother				Germany	German
Half-sister				Germany	German
Father-in-law	Paul P. Ewald	1888	Deceased	Germany	Gr. Brit.
Mother-in-law	Ella Ewald	1891	108 Sheldon Rd., Ithaca, NY	Germany	Gr. Brit.

16. REFERENCES (Name Three Persons, Not Relatives or Employers, Who Are Well Acquainted With You)		
Name in Full	Business and Home Address and Telephone Number	Years Known
ALB	(B) Cornell Univ., Ithaca, NY 14853 (H) [Redacted] (B) [Redacted]	44

#### CERTIFICATION

I have read all of the above questions. I certify that the information furnished in answer to these questions is correct and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief and I understand that it is of great importance in the consideration of my eligibility for security clearance or access authorization. I make this statement to the U.S. Department of Energy with the understanding that it will be used by the Department in carrying out its duty to protect the national security, and with knowledge that any false statement or omission of material fact may be sufficient cause for rejection of my application or dismissal after employment; further, that any false statement herein may be punished as a felony under Section 1001, Title 18, U.S. Code.

Hans A. Bethe October 15, 1986 Ithaca, NY  
(Usual Signature of Person Filling Out Questionnaire) (Sign Original Only) (Date and Place Where Signed)

#### TO BE FILLED OUT BY AGENCY OR FIRM EMPLOYING

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DUTIES (Description should not Reveal Classified Information)	NAME OF AGENCY OR FIRM
consultant for the Laboratory	University of California, Contractor to DOE, USDOE, Los Alamos, NM
	ADDRESS
	WILL PERSON HAVE ACCESS TO:
	RESTRICTED DATA Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	NATIONAL SECURITY INFO Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	EXCLUSION AREA Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	SPECIAL NUCLEAR MAT. Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

Yolanda Salazar 11-27-86  
(Signature and Title of Official Requesting Clearance or Access Authorization)  
YOYOLA SALAZAR, ASSOCIATE GROUP LEADER



FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

BY COURIER

DATE: May 11, 1987

TO: Mr. A. Barry Dalinsky, Chief  
Personnel Clearance Branch, Security Division  
Office of Safeguards and Security  
Defense Programs  
Department of Energy

FROM: Paul F. Nolan, Chief  
General Background Investigation Unit  
Criminal Investigative Division

SUBJECT: HANS ALBRECHT BETHE  
SF-003199-AB

4/12/87  
requested FBIHQ to  
all previous correspondence re  
this matter, and conduct  
reinvestigation  
CEM requested memo  
to this effect  
b6  
b7C  
[Signature]

This will acknowledge receipt of your request for a reinvestigation of Dr. Bethe via letter dated March 9, 1987.

The letter alleges that Dr. Bethe, a consultant with Los Alamos National Laboratory, was or is a member of an anti-nuclear organization. The letter also set forth information previously provided to you by the FBI regarding Dr. Bethe's association with either self-professed Communists, Communist sympathizers, Soviet Agents, or individuals affiliated with the Rosenberg's. A reinvestigation of Dr. Bethe was requested based on the above information.

It is requested that the Department of Energy provide all information in their possession which was the basis for this request.

We have not instituted any investigation in this matter.

Dr. Bethe's Personnel Security package, which is missing his Personnel Security Questionnaire is attached.

Enclosure 3

NOTE: Request for BI of Dr. Bethe received 3/9/87, and was returned on 3/18/87 for additional information. The information requested was received from DOE on 4/28/87. A preliminary review of files at HQ has disclosed several references to Dr. Bethe, which are in the process of being reviewed. To date, they have disclosed no additional pertinent information concerning Dr. Bethe.

PAZ/jg

(2)

RETURN TO

ROOM 5136

b6  
b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 05-19-2006 BY 60322AUC/LP/CPB/PVR

Exec AD Adm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Exec AD Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Exec AD LES \_\_\_\_\_  
Asst. Dir.:  
Adm. Servs. \_\_\_\_\_  
Crim. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ident. \_\_\_\_\_  
Insp. \_\_\_\_\_  
Intell. \_\_\_\_\_  
Lab. \_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Coun. \_\_\_\_\_  
Off. Cong. & Public Affs. \_\_\_\_\_  
Rec. Mgnt. \_\_\_\_\_  
Tech. Servs. \_\_\_\_\_  
Training \_\_\_\_\_  
Off. Liaison & Int. Affs. \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Director's Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL ROOM



Airtel

June 19, 1987

Acting Director, FBI (116-4010-1)

SAC,

Albany (116-196) - Enc. (2)  
Albuquerque (116-19480) - Enc. (2)  
Los Angeles - Enc. (2)  
Pittsburgh (OPM) - Enc. (2)

HANS ALBRECHT BETHE  
(DOE#SF 3199)  
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY - (DOE)  
BUDED: 8/14/87

b6  
b7C

Attached for each receiving office is a copy of PSQ and appropriate forms. A previous background investigation of this individual was conducted during April, 1954, and is to be brought up to date.

Captioned individual is an employee of the U.S. Department of Energy, or an employee of a DOE contractor, who holds a security clearance and a position covered by the Atomic Energy Act. In accordance with provisions of the Act the FBI is required to conduct the pre-employment and periodic updates background investigation, upon request from DOE. The information gathered by virtue of this investigation is an integral part in the determination of whether or not the security clearance is to be continued. More than likely if the clearance were to change, the individual's continued employment, or relationship, with DOE would be in question.

The employee was advised by DOE of the necessity to update the background investigation and thereafter provided executed (1) Standard Form PSQ and (2) FD-406 "Authority to Release Information."

Upon receipt of this airtel, the Special Agent should familiarize him/herself with the Manual of Investigative Operations and Guidelines, Part II, Section 17 and Part I, Section 116. It would also be helpful to be conversant with MIOG, Part II, Section 23-6.

MAILED 22  
JUN 19 1987  
FBI  
Exec AD Adm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Exec AD Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Exec AD LES \_\_\_\_\_  
Asst. Dir.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Adm. Servs. \_\_\_\_\_  
Crim. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ident. \_\_\_\_\_  
Insp. \_\_\_\_\_  
Intell. \_\_\_\_\_  
Lab. \_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Coun. \_\_\_\_\_  
Off. Cong. & Public Affs. \_\_\_\_\_  
Rec. Mgnt. \_\_\_\_\_  
Tech. Servs. \_\_\_\_\_  
Training \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Director's Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

PAM: kw

RETURN TO [REDACTED] ROOM 1B035

LA copies sent express mail.

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Upon receipt of the DOE investigative request and the PSQ forms for the candidate a review was made at FBIHQ to insure all the required information was provided. Begin your investigation with a review of the attached forms.

If derogatory information is developed in the course of the investigation a confrontational interview is not to be conducted in accordance with a DOE/FBI agreement. At the conclusion of the FBI's investigation and reporting of the results DOE will conduct the required interview.

All investigation required is outlined in the MIOG. Interviews relating to derogatory information must be recorded on FD-302 forms (MAOP, Part II, Section 18-13.3.5). The candidate should be checked through indices in the offices covering all places of residence, employment, or education. Close family members, cohabitants and business entity or affiliation, and references/associates should be checked through indices in the offices covering their current residence and/or employment. The indices to be checked are: general, confidential, electronic surveillance (ELSUR) and any specialized indices unique to your division (such as Woodmur). You need not check OCIS, IIS, or ISIS which are now checked at FBIHQ. Offices conducting indices checks only may transmit results to FBIHQ by airtel or teletype. All other investigation must be transmitted in report format. Those offices submitting reports should include results of indices checks in the administrative section of the report. Current cohabitants not related to the candidate must be interviewed as close personal associates.

Refrain from sending the results of investigation by teletype to save typing in the field and at FBIHQ. Each office should consider sending reports to FBIHQ via an overnight package express company, in lieu of teletypes, attention SPIN, Room 1B035.

Major issues developed that require FBIHQ participation for resolution should be communicated in writing but preceded by telephone discussion (ETS 324-2568).

When a field office determines the Bureau deadline cannot be met due to circumstances beyond their control, FBI Headquarters should be contacted immediately and an FD-205 submitted. An extension will be sought from the client agency by FBIHQ.

PG: Check OPM.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>PITTSBURGH</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>BUREAU</b>	DATE 07/21/87	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 07/02/87 - 07/20/87
TITLE OF CASE <b>HANS ALBRECHT BETHE</b> (DOE# SF 3199)		REPORT MADE BY <b>IA</b> <span style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 100px; height: 1.2em; vertical-align: middle;"></span>	TYPED BY ml <sup>b6</sup> b7C
		CHARACTER OF CASE  GBI-DOE	

REFERENCE:

Bureau airtel to Albany dated 06/19/87.

-RUC-

ADMINISTRATIVE:

Individuals contacted in this matter were advised of the provisions of the Privacy Act of 1974, and none requested confidentiality.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 05-19-2006 BY 60322/AUC/LP/CPB/PVR

APPROVED	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW			
COPIES MADE:  2-Bureau 1-Pittsburgh (116A-R-1671)		116-2341-			
		MAR 23 1988			
Dissemination Record of Attached Report		Notations			
Agency	Request Recd.	Date Fwd.	How Fwd.	By	6/pan
1 cc to DOE 9/1/87 JSP					

A\*

COVER PAGE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of:  
Date:

IA

07/21/87

Office: PITTSBURGH, PA

b6  
b7C

Field Office File #: 116A-R-1671

Bureau File #:

Title: HANS ALBRECHT BETHE

Character: GENERAL BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION  
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Synopsis:

Office of Personnel Management (OPM) file negative.

-RUC-

DETAILS:

On July 20, 1987, JIM SCOTT, Records Supervisor, United States Office of Personnel Management (USOPM), NACI Center, Boyers, Pennsylvania (PA), advised his indices contain no record for captioned applicant.

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 05-19-2006 BY 60322/AUC/LP/CPB/PVR

1\*

~~SECRET~~

DATE: 12-11-2006

FBI INFO.

CLASSIFIED BY 60322/auc/lp/cpb/prv

DECLASSIFY ON: 25X 3.3(1,6) 12-11-2031

# BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>ALBANY</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>BUREAU</b>	DATE <b>7/21/87</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>6/29-7/17/87</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>HANS ALBRECHT BETHE (DOE # SF 3199)</b>		REPORT MADE BY <b>SA [REDACTED]</b>	TYPED BY <b>MI [REDACTED]</b> b6 b7C
		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>GENERAL BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY (GBI-DOE)</b>	
		ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE	

b1

REFERENCE: Bureau airtel to Albany dated June 19, 1987.

-RUC-

ADMINISTRATIVE: All persons contacted were apprised of the provisions of the Privacy Act; none requested confidentiality.

For the information of the Bureau, Albany's CFR and Elsur indices were negative regarding applicant, applicant's relatives and reference residing within the Albany Division.

FOIMS and General indices searched on July 7, 1987 by [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] CFR indices searched on June 30, 1987 by [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]  
Elsur indices searched on June 29, 1987 by [REDACTED] b6  
b7C

(S) [REDACTED] General and FOIMS indices located two references to [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] listed on applicant's application.

APPROVED <i>WRA/myp</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
COPIES MADE:  2- Bureau 1- Albany (116A-28524)			
Dissemination Record of Attached Report		Notations	
Agency	1cc to DOE 9/1/87	<i>6/20/87</i>	
Request Recd.			
Date Fwd.			
How Fwd.			
By			

~~SECRET~~

COVER PAGE

★ U.S.G.P.O.: 1986-491-509/45733

~~SECRET~~

Albany was requested to conduct indices search of [redacted] b6  
due to his association with Cornell University, Ithaca, New b7C  
York in October, 1979. Indices negative on all individuals.

~~SECRET~~

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of: SA [REDACTED] Office: Albany  
Date: July 21, 1987

Field Office File #: 116A-28524 Bureau File #: 116-4010-1

Title: HANS ALBRECHT BETHE  
(DOE # SF 3199)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 04-07-2006 BY 60322/AUC/LP/CPB/PVR

Character: GENERAL BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION  
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY (GBI-DOE)

**Synopsis:** Employment verified and favorable. Neighborhood investigation at Ithaca, New York favorable. Reference interviewed and highly recommends. Credit check satisfactory. Arrest checks negative.

-RUC-

EMPLOYMENT:

Cornell University  
Ithaca, New York  
February, 1935 - Present

On July 13, 1987, DAVID YEH, Associate Director of Personnel, Cornell University (CU), Ithaca, New York, advised that Cornell University records show the applicant has been employed as a Professor at CU since 1935. Currently the applicant is a Professor Emeritus. Records reveal that the applicant would be eligible for rehire. YEH advised that the applicant's position as Professor Emeritus indicates he still does consulting work at the University. YEH advised there is nothing derogatory in the applicant's personnel records.

On July 8, 1987, LYMAN PARRATT, Professor, Nuclear Studies, advised he has known the applicant for approximately forty years as a member of the physics faculty. PARRATT rated the applicant as a straight A individual with an excellent reputation in character. PARRATT advised that the applicant's

loyalty to the United States Government is unquestionable. He described the appointee as being a very dedicated, highly rated, well respected member of the staff at the University. PARRATT rated the applicant's ability as a scientist as one of the best in his field. PARRATT advised he has never observed any sign of alcohol or drug abuse and recommended the applicant highly and without reservation for a position of trust and confidence with the United States Government. He has never known the applicant to be extravagant and believes he lives within his financial means.

On July 14, 1987, DALE HELD, Executive Director of Nuclear Studies, CU, advised he has known the applicant for approximately two years. HELD described the applicant as a very fine gentleman who is an upstanding individual. HELD advised that the applicant is a very professional and highly qualified research scientist. He advised the applicant's loyalty and allegiance to the United States Government is absolutely unquestionable and feels the applicant is very dedicated to both his profession and serving the United States Government. HELD believes applicant lives within his financial means and has never observed any signs of drug or alcohol abuse. HELD recommended the applicant highly for a position of trust and confidence with the United States Government.

On July 16, 1987, KARL BERKLEMAN, Director of Nuclear Studies, CU, advised he has known the applicant for approximately thirty-two years. BERKLEMAN advised the applicant is a Professor Emeritus but is still active in research at the University. BERKLEMAN advised he is extremely impressed with the applicant's scientific achievements and his knowledge and understanding of physics. He described the applicant as being the most level headed and sensitive person he has met. He advised the applicant is a marvelous teacher who is also totally committed to the welfare of the United States. He stated the applicant has a very strong sense of public duty. He described the applicant as being a very hard working and patriotic individual. BERKLEMAN never observed any sign of alcohol or drug abuse and believes the applicant lives within his financial means. BERKLEMAN recommends the applicant highly and without reservation for a position of trust and confidence with the United States Government.

On July 16, 1987, KENNETH WILSON, Director for Theory Studies, CU, advised he has known the applicant for approximately twenty-four years. He described the applicant as being of excellent character who set a fine example for the Physics Department at the University. He advised the applicant feels deeply about national issues and is very dedicated to both his profession and his service to the United States Government through consulting. WILSON advised that the applicant, although being retired, is still very active at the University and the applicant's loyalty and allegiance to the United States Government is absolutely unquestionable. WILSON never observed



any sign of alcohol or drug abuse and believes applicant is not extravagant and lives within his financial means. WILSON recommended the applicant highly for a position of trust and confidence with the United States Government.

NEIGHBORHOOD:

209 White Park Road  
Ithaca, New York 14850  
January, 1946 - Present

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b6  
b7C

On July 9, 1987, [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] advised [redacted] has known the applicant for several years as a neighbor. [redacted] advised she does not know the applicant or his wife very well but described them as being excellent neighbors. [redacted] advised that she is well aware that the applicant has an excellent reputation in the community as well as at CU. [redacted] described the applicant as being an extraordinary man and a relatively quiet neighbor. [redacted] advised she could think of absolutely nothing derogatory regarding the applicant or his family. She has never observed any signs of alcohol or drug abuse and believes that applicant lives within his financial means. [redacted] advised she would recommend the applicant for a position of trust and confidence with the United States Government.

b6  
b7C

On July 9, 1987, [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] advised he has known the applicant and his family for approximately twenty years. He described the applicant and his wife as being excellent neighbors who are very quiet and keep to themselves. [redacted] advised that the applicant is a fine man in every way maintaining an excellent reputation in both the community and at Cornell. He described the applicant as being an outstanding scholar and gentleman. [redacted] advised that the applicant's loyalty and allegiance to the United States Government is unquestionable. [redacted] has never observed any sign of alcohol or drug abuse and believes applicant lives within his financial means. [redacted] recommended the applicant highly for a position of trust and confidence with the United States Government.

REFERENCE:

On July 7, 1987, BOYCE McDANIEL, Professor of Physics and Nuclear Science at CU, advised he has known the applicant for approximately forty-seven years. McDANIEL advised that the applicant is currently a Professor Emeritus who frequently continues to consult and visit universities and give lectures. McDANIEL advised that the applicant is extremely loyal and dedicated to the United States Government. He stated that the applicant is a very public spirited individual concerned with the welfare of the United States. McDANIEL described the applicant as being an outstanding scholar and rated his ability and performance in his profession as being of the highest

caliber. He stated that the applicant's allegiance to the United States Government is unquestionable. McDANIEL advised he had absolutely no reservations about the applicant's ability and performance in his duties as a consultant to the Government. McDANIEL advised he has never observed any sign of alcohol or drug abuse and stated that the applicant lives within his financial means. McDANIEL highly recommended the applicant and without reservation for a position of trust and confidence with the United States Government.

b6  
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CREDIT:

On July 15, 1987, Mrs. CATHERINE GUBERMAN, Credit Bureau Incorporated, Albany, New York, advised IA [redacted] that a search of their files revealed BETHE has been on file with that Bureau since July, 1984. She advised his file contains four trades, three of which are rated "ones", paid as agreed, and one of which is rated a "zero", too new to rate.

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ARREST:

On July 17, 1987, LYNN BENNETT, Ithaca Police Department, Ithaca, New York advised a review of their files reveal no arrest record for the appointee and his relatives.

On July 17, 1987, JOYCE ENGLISH, Tompkins County Sheriff's Department, Ithaca, New York advised a review of their files reveal no arrest record for the applicant and his relatives.

On July 2, 1987, Sergeant MARY HOGENCAMP, New York State Police Records Center, Albany, New York, advised IA [redacted] that a search of her files revealed no adult criminal record identifiable with BETHE. This search only encompasses New York State Police arrests.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Copy to:

Report of: SA [REDACTED]  
Date: AUGUST 6, 1987

Office:

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Field Office File #: AQ 116A-19480

Bureau File #: 116-4010-1

Title: HANS ALBRECHT BETHE  
SF 3199

Character: Department of Energy

Synopsis: Reference comments favorably and recommends.

- RUC -

DETAILS:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 08-29-2006 BY 60322/UC/LP/DCG/DK

AQ 116A-19480  
SJM:mln

- 1 -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 08-29-2006 BY 60322/UC/LP/DCG/DK

REFERENCES

The following investigation was conducted by Special  
Agen [REDACTED]  
AT LOS ALAMOS, NEW MEXICO

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J. CARSON MARK, [REDACTED] advised on August 1, 1987 that he first became acquainted with the employee approximately forty-one (41) years ago and since that time their acquaintance has been professional, social and personal. MARK stated that he first met the employee in 1945 when they were both employed at the Los Alamos National Laboratories, in Los Alamos New Mexico and he indicated that the employee was there as a consultant for approximately twelve years. MARK stated at the time the employee was a professor of physics at Cornell University and still is employed at Cornell University. MARK stated that he visited the employee in Utica, New York on numerous occasions on professional matters, and he indicated that during their entire acquaintance he has been socially acquainted with the employee and they have become very close personal friends. MARK stated that he himself retired from employment with the Los Alamos National Laboratories (LANL) in 1973 and since that time his acquaintance with the employee has been more personal and social rather than professional. MARK stated that the employee certainly was a very competent qualified individual and certainly was one of the foremost physicist in the entire world. MARK said that the employee's technical expertise is still of real value and that the employee does a great deal of consulting in the field of theoretical physics which is the employee's real interest, MARK commented favorably concerning the employee's moral character, honesty, trustworthiness, associates, reputation and loyalty to the United States. He said he knew of no unfavorable information concerning the employee nor was he aware of any drug use or alcohol abuse on the part of the employee. MARK stated that to the best of his knowledge the employee lives within his financial means and he said he would probably recommend him for a position of trust with the United States Government.

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>ALBUQUERQUE</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>BUREAU</b>	DATE <b>8/6/87</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>August 1, 1987</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>HANS ALBRECHT BETHE SF 3199</b>		REPORT MADE BY SA <span style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 100px; height: 1.2em; vertical-align: middle;"></span>	TYPED BY <b>b6 b7C</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>DOE</b>	

REFERENCES:

Bureau airtel to Albuquerque dated, June 19, 1987.

- RUC -

ADMINISTRATIVE:

Where appropriate, Privacy Act (e) (3) data was furnished to persons interviewed. Express promises of confidentiality, both limited and unlimited, have been noted where granted.

General, Confidential and ELSUR indices checks negative within the Albuquerque Division.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 04-07-2006 BY 60322/AUC/LP/CPB/PVR/NE

CONVIC.	PRETRIAL DIVERSION	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES	ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:
							PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
							PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

APPROVED *WDB/Key* SPECIAL AGENT  
IN CHARGE

COPIES MADE:

2-Bureau (116-4010-1)  
1-Albuquerque (116A-19480)

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

<b>116-83411</b>	
<b>SEP 8 1987</b>	

Dissemination Record of Attached Report				
Agency	<b>116-83411</b>	<b>DOE</b>	<b>9/1/87</b>	<b>JSP</b>
Request Recd.				
Date Fwd.				
How Fwd.				
By				

Notations

*PAID*  
*6/4/87*

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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REPORTING OFFICE LOS ANGELES	OFFICE OF ORIGIN BUREAU	DATE 8/12/87	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 7/16/87 - 8/11/87
TITLE OF CASE PHANS ALBRECHT BETHE (DOE # SF 3199) DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY - DOE BUDED: 8/14/87		REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 150px;"></div>	TYPED BY j b6 b7C
		CHARACTER OF CASE  GENERAL BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY (GBI-DOE)	

REFERENCE: Bureau airtel to ALBANY, et al, dated June 19, 1987.

- RUC -

ADMINISTRATIVE

Los Angeles general indices reviewed 7/20/87 by Support Person  Confidential indices reviewed 7/16/87 by Support Person  ELSUR indices reviewed 8/11/87 by Support Person  All indices negative regarding candidate, relatives, and references.

All individuals contacted were apprised of the Privacy Act. Those requesting confidentiality have been so noted.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED						<input type="checkbox"/> NDATE 04-07-2006 BY 60322/AUC/LP/CPB/PVR
CONVIC.	PRETRIAL DIVERSION	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES	TALS
						PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
						PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

APPROVED <i>RFB/mj</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
COPIES MADE:		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> 116-2211- MAR 23 1988  </div>	
② - Bureau (Attn: SPIN UNIT, Room 1B035) 1 - Los Angeles (116A-76087)(AP-1)			

Dissemination Record of Attached Report				Notations
Agency	ICC to DOE	8/11/87	JSP	16462 PAM E. 6/10/87
Request Recd.				
Date Fwd.				
How Fwd.				
By				

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
Federal Bureau of Investigation**

## Copy to:

Report of:

Date: 8/12/87

Office: Los Angeles, California

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b7C

Field Office File #: 116A-76087

Bureau File #:

b6  
b7C

Title: HANS ALBRECHT BETHE  
(DOE #SF 3199)  
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY - DOE  
BUDED: 8/14/87

Character: GENERAL BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION  
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY (GBI-DOE)

Synopsis: Employment verified, no derogatory information revealed.  
References contacted and highly recommended. Arrest checks conducted,  
no derogatory information revealed.

- RUC -

DETAILSEMPLOYMENT

Institute for Theoretical Physics  
University of California, Santa Barbara  
Santa Barbara, California  
January 1986 - February 1986,  
January 1983 - February 1983

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 04-07-2006 BY 60322/AUV/LP/CPB/PVR

On July 22, 1987, KIM MORGAN, Accounting Office,  
University of California, Santa Barbara, California, advised  
Special Agent (SA) [redacted] that her records show applicant  
was employed as a part-time "Visiting Research Physicist" with  
the University's Institute for Theoretical Physics Department.  
Applicant was so employed on the below dates and was compensated  
as indicated:

February 1980 - March 1980	\$9100.00
January 1983 - February 1983	2904.23
January 6, 1986 - February 3, 1986	3036.00

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LA 116A-76087

MORGAN advised that since her records are accounting/payroll records, no disciplinary or derogatory information would be shown. MORGAN further advised that since applicant was employed for such short periods of time on a part-time basis, she could not be certain if anyone presently with the Institute for Theoretical Physics Department would be acquainted with applicant. She suggested contacting the current department [REDACTED]

On July 23, 1987, BONNY SIVERS, Management Services Officer, Institute for Theoretical Physics, University of California, Santa Barbara, advised SA [REDACTED] that applicant is the foremost distinguished visiting physicist to be associated with the Institute for Theoretical Physics. He is a Nobel Prize Laureate, involved in the Manhattan Project during World War II, and in that regard was involved in the development of the atom bomb and later the hydrogen bomb. Applicant has participated in research programs of the Institute of Theoretical Physics on three occasions and will attend another such program in January 1988. Applicant is a renowned physicist with a vast background and would be known by the entire staff, if not by personal association then by reputation. In SIVERS opinion, applicant is a gentleman of the highest moral character and those associates of applicant known to SIVERS, which would be people at the University, are of similar high moral character. Applicant has an excellent reputation and is totally dedicated to the country. SIVERS is aware of no alcohol or drug use by applicant and knows of no derogatory information concerning applicant. SIVERS would recommend without reservation. b6 b7C

California Institute of Technology (CIT)  
Pasadena, California  
January 1985 - March 1985,  
January 1982 - March 1982

On August 4, 1987, SA [REDACTED] spoke with SHARON BORBON, Faculty Records, and she said that HANS ALBRECHT BETHE is a world renowned physicist who is a Nobel Laureate. He has been a visiting Professor at CIT in 1951, 1952, 1953, 1964, 1982, 1984, 1985 and January 4, 1987 - March 4, 1987. In 1985 he was a Sherman Fairchild Distinguished Scholar at CIT. This program brings some of the world's intellectual



LA 116A-76087

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leaders to the University for teaching, seminars, lectures, and research. According to BORBON, BETHE was invited to the University on many occasions by other CIT Nobel Laureates. BORBON could furnish no other professors who could be contacted due to the summer break at the University.

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#### REFERENCES

ROBERT C. BACHER  
California Institute of Technology (CIT)  
Pasadena, California  
(818)356-4218

SA [ ] spoke with ROBERT F. BACHER on August 4, 1987 who advised that he has known HANS BETHE since January 1935, and worked with him at Cornell University from 1935-1949, plus government positions at Los Alamos where he worked on radar and the atomic bomb. During that time, and to the present, BETHE has demonstrated his trustworthiness, maturity, knowledge, and integrity. He has demonstrated his loyalty to the United States on numerous occasions and has handled classified documents throughout his life. He maintains an excellent reputation and his associates are all of outstanding character and reputation. He does not abuse drugs or alcohol and has never been involved with any financial problems. BACHER gave his highest possible recommendation to BETHE stating that he is still able to handle confidential material without any question as to its security.

#### ARRESTS

On July 9, 1987, Investigative Assistant (IA) [ ] reviewed the records of the Los Angeles Police Department and Los Angeles Sheriff's Department. No records were located identifiable with the applicant.

On July 13, 1987, SA [ ] reviewed the records of the Santa Barbara Police Department and Santa Barbara Sheriff's Office. No records were located identifiable with the applicant.

LA 116A-76087

On August 4, 1987, IA [redacted] reviewed the records of the Pasadena Police Department. No record was located identifiable with the applicant. b6 b7C

# Memorandum



DATE: 9/1/87

TO:

☐ DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
OFFICE OF SAFEGUARDS AND SECURITY  
GERMANTOWN, MARYLAND  
ATTN: ☐

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☐ NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION  
DIVISION OF SECURITY  
ATTN: JAMES J. DUNLEAVY, CHIEF  
PERSONNEL SECURITY BRANCH

FROM: IRVING A. BASSETT, CHIEF  
SPECIAL INQUIRY UNIT  
FBI HEADQUARTERS, RM. 1B035

SUBJECT: HANS ALBRECHT BETHE

STATUS OF INVESTIGATION: ☒ INCOMPLETE ☐ COMPLETE  
COMMENTS:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED files  
DATE 04-07-2006 BY 60322/AUC/LP/CPB/PVR

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

October 13, 1987

HANS ALBRECHT BETHE  
SF3199AE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

RECORD CHECK

A review of FBI files disclosed the following additional pertinent information concerning Dr. Bethe:

In December, 1951, a name check was conducted on Dr. Bethe at the request of the National Science Foundation. A copy of a letterhead memorandum dated December 7, 1951 containing the results of that check is enclosed. It is noted that all information contained therein was previously made available to the Atomic Energy Commission. (133-0)

Dr. Bethe was the subject of background investigations (BI) in 1947 at the request of the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC), in 1954 at the request of the Department of Defense, and in 1958, 1965 and 1966 at the request of the White House. Summary memoranda containing the result of those investigations are enclosed. The 1947 BI was incorporated into the 1954 BI. These BI's and name check contain information from other FBI files. (161-4010, 116-2241, 77-60618)

In 1962, an investigation under the provisions of the Atomic Energy Act (AEA) was conducted regarding Dr. Bethe. The AEC alleged that Dr. Bethe disclosed classified information in a January, 1962 speech and February, 1962 article based on the speech. Details of that investigation are contained in the enclosed 1965 BI. (117-2406)

In 1968, another investigation under the provisions of the AEA-Espionage was conducted regarding Dr. Bethe. The AEC alleged that Dr. Bethe disclosed classified information in a March, 1968 magazine article. No action was taken in this regard as in an earlier case involving the same information, the Department of Justice advised that prosecution was not warranted as there were conflicting opinions on critical points in the matter. This information was previously furnished to the AEC on March 25, 1968. (117-2565)

Enclosures sent to DOE,  
Original to DOE by Courier 10/14/87  
PAM/kwr

Exec AD Adm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Exec AD Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Exec AD LES \_\_\_\_\_  
Asst. Dir.:  
Adm. Servs. \_\_\_\_\_  
Crim. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ident. \_\_\_\_\_  
Insp. \_\_\_\_\_  
Intell. \_\_\_\_\_  
Lab. \_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Coun. \_\_\_\_\_  
Off. Cong. &  
Public Affs. \_\_\_\_\_  
Rec. Mgnt. \_\_\_\_\_  
Tech. Servs. \_\_\_\_\_  
Training \_\_\_\_\_  
Off. Liaison &  
Int. Affs. \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Director's Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL ROOM ☐

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 08-29-2006 BY 60322/UC/LP/DCG/DR

# Memorandum



DATE: 10/14/87

TO:

☒ DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
OFFICE OF SAFEGUARDS AND SECURITY  
GERMANTOWN, MARYLAND  
ATTN:

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☐ NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION  
DIVISION OF SECURITY  
ATTN: JAMES J. DUNLEAVY, CHIEF  
PERSONNEL SECURITY BRANCH

FROM: IRVING A. BASSETT, CHIEF  
SPECIAL INQUIRY UNIT  
FBI HEADQUARTERS, RM 1B035

SUBJECT: HANS ALBRECHT BETHE

STATUS OF INVESTIGATION: ☐ INCOMPLETE  
COMMENTS:

☒ COMPLETE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 04-07-2006 BY 60322AUC/LP/CPB/PVR